

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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Preachers Come! Free Rooms, Great Blessings!
Learn Revival, Holy Spirit Power, and Soul Winning

Sword Conference on at Garland, Tex., Feb. 1-6

Speakers: Drs. Lee Roberson, Tom Malone,
Myron Cedarholm, Bob Jones, Sr.,
Jack Hyles, and John R. Rice



Dr. Lee Roberson



Dr. Myron Cedarholm



Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.



Dr. Tom Malone



Rev. Jack Hyles

Dr. John R. Rice

Mark the first six days in February, Sunday through Friday! Then the third annual Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning will be held at the Miller Road Baptist Church, Garland, Texas. This editor has been putting on conferences on revival and soul winning all over America with programs of the best known and most greatly used preachers in America, but the program at Garland, Texas, February 1-6, is, I believe, about the strongest I ever prepared. Dr. Lee Roberson will speak four times Monday and Tuesday. Dr. Myron Cedarholm will be with us Tuesday and Wednesday. Dr. Bob Jones will be with us Wednesday through Friday. Dr. Tom Malone will be there Thursday and Friday. This editor will be speaking daily. Brother Jack Hyles will speak twice, God willing, and be present at all the services.

Each weekday morning services begin at 9:30, with two speakers before noon. Evening services begin at 6:45, with two speakers and a brief intermission. On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays afternoons there will be a Sunday School visitation and soul-winning clinic led respectively by Dr. Lee Roberson, Pastor Jack Hyles, and Dr. Tom Malone, all of them builders of great soul-winning churches, each of them baptizing hundreds of converts each year.

Dr. Lee Roberson is pastor of the Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, one of the largest churches in the world, and has for years baptized more than 1,000 new converts each year. He is also president of the Tennessee Temple Schools—College, Bible Institute, and Seminary, and the head of a foreign mission board, with about 140 missionaries.

Dr. Tom Malone is pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan, president of the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. His church has had as high as 2,200 in Sunday School. They have hundreds saved each year, and he has led the church in growth from nothing to one of the largest fundamental congregations in America. He is a moving, spiritual Bible preacher, as his prize-winning sermons in THE SWORD will show.

Dr. Myron T. Cedarholm is the director of the Conservative Baptist Association, is a graduate of Princeton Seminary, a tremendous preacher.

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., has been used of God to win hundreds of thousands of souls, and is one of the most pungent speakers in

the Gospel of Luke which throw a flood of light upon the question, What sort of praying it is that prevails with God and obtains what it seeks from Him; and also upon the question, Why it is that many prayers of God's own children come short of obtaining that which we seek of God. The first of these two passages you will find in Luke 11:5-8; our Lord Jesus Himself is the speaker:

"And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; For a friend of mine is come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him; and he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee? I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him because he is his friend, yet BECAUSE OF HIS IMPORTUNITY he will arise and give him as many as he needeth. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Keep on Praying Till You Get It!

The central lesson in this parable of our Lord's is, that, When

(Continued on page 9)

Third Prize Winner in Annual Sword Evangelistic Sermon Contest



Central Baptist Church, Panama City, Florida

"As I have done, so God hath requited me."—Judges 1:7.

A boomerang is a curved piece of wood used as a missile weapon by native Australians, which can be thrown in such a manner that it returns to the one who throws it. Hence it may react to the damage of the user. When a scheme backfires and falls back with harm upon the schemer, we thus call it a boomerang.

If the truth be known, all of our actions and words may become a boomerang—whether good or bad. There is a law of sowing and reaping. So "God hath required me" may be said by one who has lived a godly and righteous life.

But one thing is certain: SIN is always a boomerang! Sooner or later sin comes home to the sinner. And here in Judges, chapter one, is a classic illustration. A wicked and cruel king of the

Canaanites had taken great pleasure in torturing his victims. In the case of his captive kings, he had severed their thumbs and big toes, making them unfit for warfare again. Then they were forced to scramble for scraps of food under the king's table like animals. "But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done; and there is no respect of persons" (Col. 3:25). After many bloody conquests the tide of battle finally turned. Adoni-bezek fled the scene but the enemy caught him "and cut off his thumbs and his great toes. And Adoni-bezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died" (Judges 1:6b-7).

"God hath required me." The word "requited" speaks of retaliation. It is as if the king said, "God has paid me back!"

Did Solomon have this in mind when he said, "Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him" (Prov. 26:27)?

Adoni-bezek was a king! He thought he could get by with his cruelties. He had position, power and prestige. But finally his sin found him out. How many people imagine they can outwit the judgment of God because of their power and position!

He was a *conceited* king! He obviously was proud and haughty. He must have gloated in his inhumanity to these conquered kings. Sinners are always proud and self-centered. Many times they are self-righteous. A man will say, "I'm not so bad," though God has declared that "all have sinned, and come short" (Rom. 3:23). They talk about being "good hearted," though God describes the human heart as "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jer. 17:9). Sinners are easily deceived and duped. Bitter seems sweet to them, and wrong seems right. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12).

He was a *conquering* king! He felt his superiority. He had captured many kings. In this respect he was like many unsaved people who, though they are finite little mortals, imagine themselves superior. Do they not have money, friends, influence, position? Thus they feel themselves superior because of the approval of society or because of success in the business world.

He was a *cruel* king. He took delight in torturing the kings he had captured. Sin is always cruel. Satan is cruel. Malice is cruel. "Jealousy is cruel as the grave" (Song of Sol. 8:6). So, in one way or another, sinners are always cruel. A sinner husband is often cruel to his wife. A son who is lost will cruelly break a godly mother's heart with his rebellion and disobedience. Sinner parents will sometimes react most violently when little children come home from a revival to report that they found Jesus that night in the meeting. And often the children are subjected to subsequent cruelties when they seek to live for Christ. And, if you are not saved, think of the cruel way in which you are treating the Son of God—by your sinful rebellion and selfish rejection—after He suffered and bled and died for you!

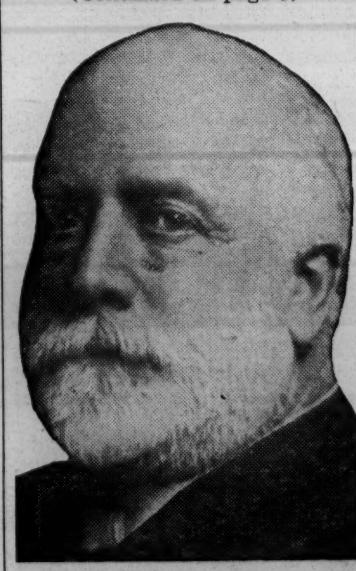
Observe, also, that Adoni-bezek became a *captured* king. His victories came to an end. And in verse 6 we find him fleeing, pursued, cornered, caught! Sooner or later sin catches up with the sinner. "Be sure your sin will find you out!" (Num. 32:23b).

And apparently, before the death of this king, he became a *convicted* king, for in verse 7 he admitted that GOD had paid him back—that it was God who had brought him down to defeat. "God hath required me." But his conviction came too late to save him!

Finally he became a *conquered* king—the king became a corpse! The grim reaper finally conquered. Even so, "it is appointed unto man once to die" (Heb. 9:27). Every wise man and woman will prepare for the inevitable.

This king received sin's wages, death! (Rom. 6:23) The boomerang had returned.

It always does! Retribution is sure. "The fidler must be paid." God will even the score. Throughout the Bible we see this. Pharaoh laid his plans to (Continued on page 10)



Dr. R. A. Torrey



Rev. Hugh F. Pyle

HOW The Church at Jerusalem DID IT!

The Commission, Power, Soul-winning Results and Method of New Testament Churches

By Walter E. Handford, Evangelist, Assistant Editor

"And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."—Acts 5:42.

We have only one pattern for the church, only one rule of faith and practice, and that is as found in the Scriptures. No manual of church discipline, no rules of a denominational group can ever substitute for what the Scripture gives us as its pattern for soul winning, its pattern for church organization, its pattern for duties of the church. Now I would like to go to the Bible and see what the Bible says about the local New Testament church: what its job was, where it received its power, and how it got the job done.

I. The Soul-Winning Commission Jesus Gave Us

First of all, look at Matthew 28:18-20: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Actually the word "power" should be translated authority. "All authority is given unto me," Jesus said, "in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

We call this the Great Commission passage, for it gives the last words of Jesus to His disciples before His return to Heaven. These were His marching orders. He was outlining their duties.

In John 20:21 He says, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." He was giving here the job to the church. The New Testament commission is to win souls as Jesus did.

Here is the pattern then for the



Rev. Walter Handford

disciples. First of all, go and teach people how to be saved. Get them to honestly repent of their sins and accept the Saviour.

Then after the disciples did that, they were to teach the new converts to do exactly what Christ had commanded them, the original disciples, to do.

Therefore, from generation to generation since the apostles, we have had passed on down to us the Great Commission of getting people saved, baptizing them, and then sending them out to be soul winners.

In Acts 1:8 we find in different words essentially the same commission that Jesus gave in Matthew 28. The Scripture here says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Jesus was giving the main job to the church.

Will you see that the main thing Jesus Christ left for churches to do is to get people saved. That is the main job. That is the

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

Hundreds of preachers from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and other states are expected to be at the third annual Conference on Revival and Soul Winning sponsored by THE SWORD OF THE LORD at the Miller Road Baptist Church, Garland, Texas, February 1-6.

My, what a strong program! Dr. Cedarholm, director of the Conservative Baptist Association, brilliant preacher, will charm and stir many who never met him before in the Southwest. Dr. Tom Malone, one of the strongest Bible preachers, one of the most colorful soul winners in America, will

primary thing. Therefore, a failure in soul winning, a church's failure to win people to Christ is not an incidental failure. It is a basic, primary failure in the most important thing that was left for the church to do.

Here Jesus Christ is giving marching orders to every Christian, and when He gives this commission to us, it is the main thing. Note that He did not send the church out to build great church buildings. Did you know that you won't find one single word in all the New Testament Scriptures about building a church house? Not a thing. Don't get me wrong, I believe in church buildings. But listen, will you see that the main thing to get done for Jesus Christ is not to build a church house?

There are so many people that will break their backs to build a church building, or to make the building attractive. But that is not what Jesus Christ primarily sent us to do. Many young churches grow quickly until they get involved in a building program. Then the tendency is to leave off the important matter of soul winning and become all involved in a building project. Many churches never do recover again the zeal they once had for souls. A church building should be practical and useful. A good building is necessary to the carrying out of the Lord's work, but it is never to be the main thing in the minds of Christian people. The building is simply a means toward the end of getting people saved.

When Jesus Christ left the disciples behind, He did not instruct them to build a great organization. Churches ought to be well organized and are to function effectively in soul winning. But the best organization in all the world, unless it is streamlined and geared to soul winning, will fail to get the main job done for the Lord Jesus.

Nor did Christ commission His churches to be great social institutions. I believe churches have some social responsibility. Surely God's work has some social obligations to its people, but churches today have gone to seed about this matter of social programs, social culture, social activities and have left out the main thing. Jesus Christ came "to seek and to save that which was lost." The church then should be involved in the main thing that Jesus Christ came to do.

A few years ago it was my privilege to take a guided tour through the Ford Assembly Plant along the River Rouge in Detroit, Michigan. It was a very interesting and fascinating trip. A Ford bus took us along the Expressway southwest out of the city of Detroit. As we approached a series of long low buildings, our guide said, "You are now approaching the great River Rouge Ford Plant." Then he told us some interesting facts about the plant. There were some sixty thousand workers with a daily payroll of a million and a half dollars. The guide said that each day they produced 1,042 completed automobiles. It was a tremendous plant.

As we went into the main gate, he pointed out the engine plant, the glass factory, and the transmission plant. Off to the right our guide showed us the steel mill where the Ford motor car company makes its own steel products.

(Continued on page 6)

change hearts and lives and bless the multitudes. Dr. Lee Roberson, Spirit-filled man of God, will speak with the tremendous authority of success and God's blessing, which have enabled him to baptize over 1,000 converts won in his Chattanooga church each year for years.

To hear Dr. Bob Jones is to hear one of the anointed men of God who has been used to win so many hundreds of thousands of souls in great campaigns. His preaching is revolutionary, even as it has brought moral revolution in cities all over America in his campaigns. Dr. Jones is one man whom you can't bluff, can't bribe, can't scare, and who does not change his position everytime some popular idol arises, or when the wind blows a different direction in popularity.

Brother Jack Hyles is the atomic-bomb kind of preacher! And this editor will be speaking daily on soul winning, the power of the Holy Spirit, on standing true to Christ, and we trust God will help us to make the Bible live, and the Christian life a glowing thing of power and joy and success to many a Christian. Surprise and blessing in the music, too!

Every church ought to see that its pastor attends these services if possible! It will be the turning point in the lives of many a preacher, many a Christian. Pastors might organize carloads of people to come to the conference. Brother Jack Hyles and the Miller Road Baptist Church will furnish free beds for pastors, missionaries, evangelists, and their wives, if they write at once to Rev. Jack Hyles, Miller Road Baptist Church, 2008 16th Street, Garland, Texas.

Inexpensive eating places are nearby. Even to be in this church where the power of God is so abundantly manifested will be a red-letter experience.

Don't miss the great Sword Conference at Garland, Texas, February 1-6, at Miller Road Baptist Church.

He Called Me in Ten Minutes!

Our first weekly nation-wide radio broadcast was Sunday, January 4, and it was heard nearly all over America. After the program on radio WLS, the Prairie Farmer Station in Chicago, at 11:00 to 11:30 on Sunday night, a call came from Dr. Sam Morris at San Antonio. He had heard every word, he said, and the program came in clear and strong there, 1,500 miles away. Nearly everybody east of the Rocky Mountains in the United States and Canada can hear that broadcast on WLS, 890 on the dial, Sunday night at 11:00, Central Standard Time.

Then a letter comes from Brownsville, Texas, saying they heard the program Sunday morning at 7:30 on Radio WFAA. And other letters come from all over America about that first broadcast.

The broadcast expense will be about \$1,000 a week. For the first week of the broadcast we have had only a little more than \$100 as yet, but we trust that thousands of friends will join us in prayer, and as God leads, help in regular giving to support this gospel half hour of blessing going out to all the world in "The Voice of Revival" broadcast with Editor John R. Rice preaching each Sunday.

Note the radio log in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and find a station you can hear. Almost every SWORD reader can hear this broadcast on some station.

It Is Here! 103-Page Pamphlet on Predestination Ready

We are proud to have in hand the new, lovely book, *Predestined for Hell? No!* There are 103 pages, ten chapters, on God's foreknowledge, predestination, and election explained from the Scriptures, correcting the errors of hyper-Calvinism, comforting the saints, inviting sinners.

We believe that this book is unanswerable for any Bible believer. Those who want to go by the influence of man or by human argument or logic may not be convinced by the book. But everyone who is willing to take the plain Word of God as final, without explaining it away, without dodging it, will see, we believe,

when he reads this book, that the Bible teaches God wants every person to be saved and that anyone can be saved who will. God does not predestinate anybody to Hell. He wants all to be saved and offers salvation to all.

How came Calvin to make up such a doctrine? Why did some good people teach it? What are the "five points of Calvinism"? What did Spurgeon teach about it? What about Pharaoh and Esau



and Judas? Here are the answers! We believe that this book is greatly needed. Hundreds of letters from godly people who read these articles in THE SWORD OF THE LORD tell us so. Now we have added to it, published it in a book, 103 pages, nice paper binding, for only 75¢ per copy, four copies for \$2.00. Enclose 5¢ postage per copy. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois. Help spread this needed message with gospel and Bible teaching!

Yes, Jehoshaphat Pamphlet Free This Month!

The beautiful 32-page pictured pamphlet on *Jehoshaphat's Sin, His Associates, and His Sons* is yours free if you write during January and ask for it. If you write after January 31, enclose 25¢ per copy. But it is of such importance, it shows so clearly what the Bible teaches about the ruin which comes by associating with unbelievers and compromising with lost people and modernists and false religionists, that every Christian ought to have it.

It is a beautifully printed pamphlet. Every Christian will find it interesting and compelling reading. Only one copy free, please, per letter. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

Other Dates With the Editor

We covet your prayers for this unworthy editor. I am loaded down with engagements. Please pray that God will give the power of the Holy Spirit, divine compassion and wisdom and strength as we preach to multitudes.

February 8-15, revival services at the Southside Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri.

February 16, Monday, at the National Tabernacle, Washington, D. C.

February 17, at Church of the Open Door, Philadelphia.

February 19, at Woodbridge Gospel Church, Woodbridge, New Jersey.

February 20, at Skaneateles, New York.

Monday and Tuesday, February 23 and 24, I speak at State-wide Conservative Baptist Pastors Conference at First Baptist Church, Streator, Illinois.

February 26, First Baptist Church, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

February 27, Calvary Independent Church, New Castle, Pennsylvania.

March 1-8, revival at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Nederland, Texas.

Permanent Typists Needed in Sword Office

With the radio mail and other work, we need two high-grade Christian typists in the Sword of the Lord office. Must be good typists, steady, reliable, no part-time workers, must promise to stay a year or more if work is satisfactory to us. Fine Christian surroundings, forty-hour week, reasonable salary for one in full-time Christian work. Wonderful opportunity for one who agrees with the Christian position of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and wants a career in Christian work. Address Secretary Viola Walden, Sword of the Lord Foundation, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

The SWORD of the LORD

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Dangerous Tendencies Alarm Bible-Believers

Redpath Commands Ferre; Wheaton Says Position on Inspiration Not Static; Evangelical Leaders Need to Be Seriously Disturbed and on Guard Against Encroaching Unbelief

By Evangelist John R. Rice

Last week this editor had an extended article on "Mechanical Dictation, or Verbal Inspiration." Now I feel burdened to write further about the weakening position of good men concerning the fundamentals of the faith, especially concerning verbal inspiration of the Bible.

We take too lightly, I fear, the severe command of the Lord Jesus Christ, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matt. 7:15). It is a warning often repeated in the epistles. Wolves come, but they look like sheep and pretend to be sheep. False prophets arise, but they appear to be popular preachers and they claim to be evangelical and orthodox. But year in and year out, down through all the ages, there has been a constant falling away from sound doctrine and from loyalty to Christ and the Bible among those who were formerly evangelical Christians.

It ought to be solemn warning to all evangelical leaders that Chuck Templeton, once a fervent evangelist and leader in Youth for Christ, an outspoken fundamentalist, was urged to go to Princeton for prestige and there opened himself to false teaching. Then, keeping company with National Council of Churches leaders and modernists, he finally made shipwreck of the faith and left the ministry.

We have very sadly called attention to the case of Sherman Roddy. Once pastor of a fundamentalist church, then teacher in the Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary at Denver, he now has repudiated historic Christianity, calls the God of the Bible "the sadistic God," says that fundamentalists are "pharisaical prigs and hypocrites" and indicates that the worst thing about fundamentalists is that they give an invitation for people to come to Christ and confess Him openly. The case of Sherman Roddy ought to make those who influenced him in the "new evangelical" movement tremble and blush, and ought to make all of us beware.

On every side there are indications of a great slipping away from the fundamentals of the faith. We have sadly mentioned before the case of Dr. Bernard Ramm and his book, *The Christian View of Science and Scripture*, so highly praised by Dr. Wilbur M. Smith, named by Dr. Billy Graham as the most helpful book he had read recently. Dr. Ramm believes in the inspiration of the Bible, but holds that the scientific and historical accuracy is limited by the knowledge of the times and Hebrew culture, and holds to what amounts to theistic evolution. The worship of science and scholarship has enamored and trapped many before now.

Moody Church Pastor Hears and Commends Famous Infidel, Nels F. S. Ferre

This slipping away from the fundamentals of the faith is illustrated by an article in *Moody Church News* for November, 1958, page 12, where the pastor, Dr. Alan Redpath, quotes from his diary for Monday, September 29, praising Nels F. S. Ferre. He says, "I attended a ministers' retreat at Evanston under the auspices of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago. Nearly 400 ministers were present . . . We were greatly challenged by the message of Dr. Ferre, president of Andover Newton Theological School. His emphasis on the transcendence of God, the sinfulness of man, and triumph over death in the risen Christ were all challenging and most enlightening."

Moody Church was founded by the late D. L. Moody, has had only outspoken fundamentalists as pastors in the past, including R. A. Torrey, A. C. Dickson, Paul

Rader, Dr. Philpott, and more recently, Dr. H. A. Ironside. Now the present pastor fellowships with outright modernists in the Church Federation of Greater Chicago, hears and praises Nels Ferre.

We believe that Ferre, along with Bishop Oxnam, is perhaps the most hurtful and outspoken infidel today claiming to be Christian. And I mean infidel in the sense that he denies all the essentials of the Christian faith, including the infallible accuracy of the Bible, the deity of Christ, the blood atonement, the virgin birth, etc.

In his book, *The Christian Understanding of God*, page 191, Ferre says, "Mary, we remember, was found pregnant before her engagement to mild Joseph. Nazareth was hard by a Roman garrison where the soldiers were German mercenaries. Jesus is also reported throughout a continuous part of the history of art, it is claimed, to have been blond. This is supposedly unnatural for the Mediterranean countries where this same tradition started and was continued. Hence Jesus must have been the child of a German soldier! After all, the claim develops, such is the experience of many girls near military camps . . . Such an interpretation has been made of his life, and who can deny that such a conjecture could be true?"

On page 175 he says that the Bible is not finished. At the top of page 108 he accuses Jesus, saying, ". . . The passages where he speaks of himself, if allowed as at all genuine in import, are almost neurotically self-concerned and invidious of others as thieves and robbers!" That blasphemous about the perfect Lord Jesus!

On page 192 Ferre says, "The birth stories [in the Bible] are, to be sure, most improbable on other grounds . . ." On page 214, concerning the Bible, Ferre says, "The records are obviously confused and accounts do not always seem to agree." He dwells at length on the sinfulness of Jesus, the weakness of Jesus, the limitations of Jesus.

One whole book of Nels Ferre, *The Sun and the Umbrella*, is on the theme that "the Gospel is the good news of God. Whatever hinders the news is bad; whatever helps is good," and that the umbrellas which keep us from understanding the good news and keep us from touch with God are "An Umbrella Called Christ" (chapter 1), "An Umbrella Called the Bible" (chapter 2), etc.

In other books, Ferre distinctly takes the Marxist-socialist position akin to communism. And here Dr. Alan Redpath, who came to Moody Church as a fundamentalist and who has before now recommended association and fellowship with modernists, puts his approval on one of the most infamous and hurtful modernists of our time! Even Methodists could not take the anti-Christian, anti-biblical teachings of Ferre, and church leaders were forced to cancel his engagement at Lake Junaluska in North Carolina. Pressure was so great that he resigned from the Graduate School of Religion at Vanderbilt University and went back to Andover Newton Seminary. But the man too radical for southern Methodists, the man whose coming to Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville caused such an uproar, is now approved by the pastor of famous Moody Church!

I say that evangelical leaders ought to be alarmed about the constant encroachment of unbelief in evangelical circles.

The Danger of the Wheaton College Position on Inspiration

We mentioned last week Dr. V. Raymond Edman's statement

in the Wheaton College Bulletin, disavowing what he calls "mechanical dictation," which he says some people hold. We showed that that is a false position, and without judging Dr. Edman's motives, we feel it is unwise to take up the terminology of modernists to berate fundamentalists, and particularly when modernists have made here a false issue.

But there are other reasons why friends of Wheaton should be concerned and on guard to keep Wheaton College from slipping, perhaps unconsciously, away from the out-and-out Bible-believing position. This is indicated, in my humble judgment, by the statement of faith called, "The Wheaton Position on Inspiration," which was issued in the fall of 1956. This document was signed by sixteen men, the faculty of the Department of Bible and Philosophy in Wheaton College.

I know a number of these men, and I am assured that some of them are devoted fundamentalists, outspokenly and unashamedly for all the basic doctrines of the Christian faith. And those whom I do not know personally, I trust are sincere in their statements that they believe in the verbal inspiration of the Bible. All my six daughters have graduated from Wheaton College. Three sons-in-law have graduated there and a fourth son-in-law is in the senior class now. My assistant pastor is a graduate of Wheaton College. I have thus put thousands of dollars into the college. I do not charge that there is any known and avowed modernism in Wheaton College. I do say that there are tendencies which cause me very grave concern and which should arouse Christian people against the subtle encroachments of unbelief in Wheaton College as in many, many other Christian institutions.

In that document, "The Wheaton Position on Inspiration," the sixteen faculty members restate the official college position on verbal inspiration. They say, "As faculty members of Wheaton College we gladly sign each year a 'Statement of Faith' which includes the words: 'We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writing, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life.'"

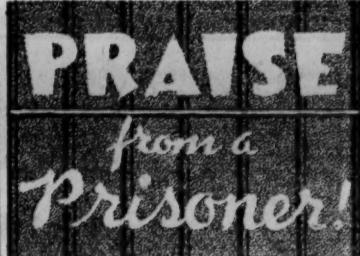
But, taking that statement at face value in all sincerity, sensible people know that good men do not go wrong intentionally. Sincere, good men are often misled. The heretic always thinks himself to be orthodox. Even Nels Ferre claims to be an "evangelical." In a recent letter to me, Dr. Henry Van Dusen, president of Union Theological Seminary, New York, asserted boldly that he was not a modernist and that no member of his faculty claimed to be a modernist! Satan does not come in with horns and hoofs and smelling of brimstone; he comes in as an angel of light. Wolves do not come in as wolves, but they come disguised in sheep's clothing. And so Satan does not lead bad men wrong as much as he leads good men wrong. Satan does not work as hard to destroy a bad school as a good school. Christians should be more concerned about Wheaton College, for example, and its safety, than about a school already gone over to the enemies of the Bible.

There is a statement in that document, "The Wheaton Position on Inspiration," which seems to me to contradict verbal inspiration. In the fifth paragraph, the statement says:

"A true and living orthodoxy, we believe, must never become static. No true orthodoxy lives on the orthodoxy of the past. If we are to remain loyal to the faith of our fathers, we dare not merely repeat their answers to opponents of a generation ago. We must rethink the doctrines of revelation and inspiration for our own generation and must fight on the battle lines as they are drawn today. This, we believe, demands an honest search into the truth of God in humble dependence upon the illumination of the Holy Spirit."

That is the entire paragraph, word for word, and nothing taken out of its context.

As a noble man of God, a trustee of Wheaton College, said to me in a letter, "Why should we



Dear Rev. Rice:

"I have read your sermon, 'Peter and Jesus.' I wish you could know what it has done for my heart.

"Thank God for this message. I have felt dead inside for months with the feelings of guilt and condemnation for sins committed after I was saved. Worst of all, the Devil deceived me and had me convinced that Jesus was angry with me and that we could never again be real friends. Oh, what a joy to my heart to know that Jesus cares as much for me now as when I first believed!

"A man let me borrow your book, *The Scarlet Sin*, and I have been busy copying your sermons so I will be able to read them over and over again when I return the book.

"You said in the Author's Preface, 'These sermons are different from others I have printed in book form.' If you are able, will you please send me other sermons you have written? Your messages have given me so much encouragement and strength, I see Jesus in a new way, so real—like He used to be. These sermons have turned my night into day. Why, I couldn't even pray and ask forgiveness, the Devil had me so convinced God wouldn't hear. Thank you."

(Signed) J. T.
Texas Department of Corrections
Huntsville, Texas

Please mention THE SWORD OF THE LORD when answering advertisements.

rethink the doctrine of inspiration? I feel the same way. If we have had what the Bible itself clearly teaches about its own inspiration in the past, is there some other source from which modern, cultured men can learn what is true about the inspiration of the Bible? I think not.

Orthodoxy, says the Wheaton Department of Bible and Philosophy, "must never become static." I understand the word "static" means fixed, established, unchanging. And that is exactly what I think orthodoxy should be as it relates to the fundamental doctrines of the Bible.

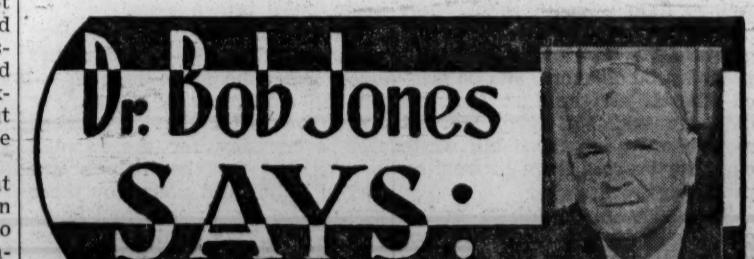
Is my mind fluid, open to conviction, on the inspiration of the Bible, the deity of Christ, the blood atonement, and such essentials of the Christian faith? No, it is not. My mind is static. I am already persuaded. The point is already proved. My mind may be open to learn more details of what the Bible itself says or means, but as to whether the Bible itself is what it claims to be, the Word of God, that matter was settled long ago. It is not even open for argument. I do not see why a matter so essential as the inspiration of the Bible should not

be definitely settled for every informed Christian. So I beg to differ with these good brethren. I think that in the sense of the fundamentals of the faith, orthodoxy should be static, not changeable. And I do not believe that any further facts or arguments can ever change for a devout Christian the essential fact of the infallible inspiration of the Bible, or of the deity of Christ, or of His virgin birth, or of His blood atonement, or of His bodily resurrection. Where God's Word has unmistakably spoken, then God's children may rest there in settled, static confidence.

But the terminology here is more distressing in view of the language of neo-orthodoxy, and the brethren here had somewhat in mind the neo-orthodox position, because they expressly mention it in the third paragraph from the end. I believe the brethren intended this statement of the Wheaton position to be understood somewhat in relation to neo-orthodoxy and as an answer to neo-orthodoxy.

And what is the neo-orthodox position concerning the Bible? It is simply that the Bible is in

(Continued on page 6)



We received a letter recently from one of our Bob Jones University "preacher boys" who is pastor of a good, sound, orthodox, Bible-believing church in New Jersey. I quote: "Enclosed is a check from our church for \$50 to be used where it is most needed in training Christian young people in Bob Jones University. Our church realizes the importance of good, sound, Bible training for our young people in these turbulent days. Having graduated from Bob Jones University, I know what you are doing; and it has made me happy to see this church, which I pastor, take this step to share in the ministry of Bob Jones University. I appreciate what the University did for me through my training. We appreciate the stand

you are taking in these last days against the devil's attempt to erase the line between the fundamentalists and the modernists."

Almost every day we get a letter similar to the one from which we have quoted. Won't you Christian people pray more than ever for Bob Jones University, and won't you help us by contacting the right kind of young people who can be trained for Christian leadership in these days of great spiritual need? Won't you also invest some of the Lord's money in the work we are doing? Please let us hear from you. Thank you, and God bless you.

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Kids' CORNER

By Aunt Joy

This week's story about giving is by one of my favorite storytellers, Aunt Theresa Worman. She often tells stories about Billy and Patty Bangle on her radio program heard over Radio WMBI. Here is one of her very best stories about the Bangle family.

More Brown Eggs

"Grandpa gives lots of money to God, doesn't he, Mom?" asked Billy Bangle, as he and Mother Bangle and Patty sat on the newly cut grass under the big oak tree.

"Yes, Grandpa is a very generous giver," replied Mother Bangle.

"How much does he give—a thousand dollars a year?" questioned Billy.

"I don't know exactly how much he gives. I know he used to give a tithe, a tenth of everything he earned, but now he gives more than that," went on Mother Bangle.

"Boy, I bet that makes a lot of money!" continued Billy.

"I'm sure it's a pretty good amount, but Grandpa isn't a rich man, you know," said Mother Bangle.

"He's got a farm—and lots of cows and chickens and everything." It seemed to Billy that Grandpa must be very rich with all those things. "And he gives money to the church where he goes, and he takes care of some missionaries, doesn't he?" asked Billy.

"Yes, he helps support two missionaries, one in Japan and one in Brazil. And besides that, he gives to others whenever he hears of a special need. I'm so glad I have a father who loves the Lord Jesus and loves to give for His cause. I remember when Grandpa wouldn't give a penny to church without crabbing about it, and he wouldn't give a penny for missionary work," said Mother.

"But, Mom, Grandpa loves Jesus now—lots. He reads his Bible all the time, and he prays so nice. He goes to church, and he gives lots of money to missionaries. What happened?" questioned Billy. He just couldn't imagine Grandpa anything but kind and generous.

"I'll never forget what happened, honey, to change your grandfather," said Mother. "It's strange I never told you about this before. You see, Grandpa always had a lot of chickens on the farm. The other farmers let their wives have the chicken money for things they needed, but Grandpa was so tight with his money that my mother had to raise ducks and geese for her extra money. Grandpa had good chickens, and he prided himself on the fact that his chickens laid big eggs. He got more money for those big white eggs, for he sold them to wealthy people in town."

"One day my brothers and I came home from a Junior missionary meeting and we told how our society, the Lightbearers, was going to take care of a little baby girl in India who didn't have any father or mother to care for her. We wanted to help. Grandpa said there were enough poor children in our country to care for without getting all worked up about some foreign child."

"Mother thought it was wonderful to want to help care for a little Indian girl. She said it was just what Jesus wanted us to do."

"Occasionally some eggs were smaller than Father wanted, and sort of brown in color. Mother persuaded him to let us have them to sell for our missionary gift. We were really surprised when Father said, 'All right; they can have all the smaller brown eggs. But I warn you there are not many of them, because my hens lay big white eggs.'

"Father was honest as the day is long, and when he made a

promise he kept it. He wasn't afraid to make such a promise, because he knew he could trust his hens to lay big eggs, with only a smaller brown one now and then.

"Every morning after Father went to the barns, Mother and the boys and I read the Bible and prayed together. It was so nice. The morning father promised us the smaller brown eggs, my little brother—I think he was about six then—prayed: 'Dear God, make lots of little brown eggs, so we can take care of the little brown girl in India.'

"Afterward I said to Mother, 'Wasn't that a silly prayer that Joel prayed? And Mother looked at me, her soft brown eyes shining, and said, 'I don't think so. I think it was a very sensible prayer. We need small brown eggs, and God can make small brown eggs just the same as He can make big, white ones.'

"The first day Joel prayed that way there were two more small brownish eggs than there had been the day before. Father didn't say anything about it, but oh, were we happy!

"The next day Joel prayed, 'Thank You, God, for the small brown eggs for the little brown girl in India. Get us some more eggs—please, God.'

"And that day there were two more brown eggs than there had been the day before.

"The next day Joel prayed, 'Thank You, God, for the small

longs to Him. I've been mean, too, making my wife and children have to pray when I'm not around.' Grandpa knelt right down there beside Mother. She put her arm around him and he put his head on the edge of the table beside Mother's. If I live to be a hundred, I'll never forget that first time I heard Grandpa pray. He said, 'Thank You, God, for showing me my stingy heart. Don't let me rob You any more. I know I'm saved; I know I'm Your child, and I've been robbing You, my very own heavenly Father. Make the eggs small and brown or big and white—any way You like, God. They're all Yours. Just let us keep enough for ourselves to keep body and soul together. May we sell all the rest and give all the money we get for them to the brown babies in India and to the black babies in Africa and to the yellow babies in China and to the red babies and to the white babies. Amen.'

"As Mother said afterward, Father really meant that prayer, and if there had been purple and green and orange babies in the world, he'd have included them too! From that time to this, your grandfather has been one of the most generous, most cheerful givers I have ever known."

"Did the chickens lay brown eggs or white ones, Mom?" asked Patty.

"Bless your heart, honey, I don't remember. All I remember is that there were always lots of eggs, and one-tenth of the money wasn't nearly enough to give. We wanted to give our love gift to God, over and above the tenth, so our missionary boxes filled up rapidly with money from the eggs we sold. We were all so happy! And you'd be surprised how many in our little church started giving more to the Lord's work when they saw our joy."

"I'm not going to be a stingy Christian, Mom," said Patty solemnly.

"Me neither," said Billy. And they meant it, too.

(Used by permission. From the book, DOINGS AT THE BANGLES' HOUSE, by Aunt Theresa, Moody Press, Chicago 10, Illinois, 50c.)

MEMORY WORK:

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee" (Deuteronomy 16:17).

"...God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Corinthians 9:7b).

INCIDENTS and Illustrations

By Evangelist Robert L. Sumner
Contributing Editor

Caught by His Conscience

The biblical warning, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23), is fulfilled in many different ways. A little over two years ago an honor camp inmate of San Quentin prison in California, Gerald E. Baucum, created a national sensation when he and three other inmates escaped by plane. Baucum, who would have been eligible for parole in a few months, flew with his three companions to Medford, Oregon. His three companions were almost immediately recaptured. That was in 1956. Baucum went on to Butte, Montana, married, and his wife is now expecting a child.

He did not get caught in his sin—publicly! However, his sin found him out privately to the extent that he was "afraid to look at myself in the mirror," as he himself later testified. The other day, Baucum, accompanied by his father and his lawyer, returned to San Quentin and surrendered to Warden Fred Dickson with the explanation that he wanted "to start a new life without being afraid to look at myself in the mirror." His conscience had "captured" him!

Something went wrong and the resulting confusion gave about 700 students an electronic run-around. Boys reported to girls' gym classes and vice versa, 160 pupils jammed into a 100-pupil capacity study hall, voice students ended up in the band, and other such dilemmas were as common as fleas on a dog's back. Gammeter blamed the students for making mistakes in clerical errors when they filled out the punch the brain operates on.

A more serious and more tragic mechanical error was made a couple of months later in Philadelphia, keeping a 26-year-old mother in the House of Correction for six months without a hearing.

Called as a witness against a man being tried on moral charges involving her two daughters, Mrs. Ethel Bell did not show up and the judge issued a bench warrant charging her with obstructing justice. She was arrested, taken to the House of Correction, and should have appeared in court the next day. However, instead of listing Mrs. Bell as "11," the code number of a material witness, the key punch operator of a calculating machine erred and the card was punched "0011," the code for riotous destruction of property.

Because of this, the woman was classified as a defendant awaiting trial and she languished in prison for well over five months before the error was discovered and Mrs. Bell was freed.

No machine is perfect. Neither is any man. The imperfection of machines is apparent in their eventual break-down. The imperfection of man is manifested through his ultimate death. What happens to a machine when it is destroyed is of relatively little importance. What happens to a man when he dies makes all the difference of eternity. That is why man needs a Saviour and a remedy for his sin. That Saviour is Christ; the remedy is His precious blood.

The end never justifies the means whether it be what Carpenter and Williams did in North Carolina or whether it is yoking up of twentieth century fundamentalists with modernists in an effort to get out the Gospel and do good. Wrong is never right.

80 Converts Now in This Argentine Prison

By the Editor

We are very grateful for a fine letter from Jose Balian of Buenos Aires in the Republic of Argentina, South America, to whom we shipped some copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" as published in the Spanish language.

Here is a translation of his letter, which came to us in Spanish.

"Your wonderful tracts arrived just in the time of need. Some months ago while trying to get permission to visit the prison they granted us the permission, by God's help, to go to the prison of San Martin in which are about 900 prisoners. And exactly one day before this inaugural visit the two packages arrived from you and they were used for this place, and produced marvelous results, and with the help of the Holy Spirit brought forth fruit and more fruit in abundance, and there are now in that place 80 converts who pray, sing, testify and preach the Word."

"Now that we have found out about this wonderful tract, I hope you will send as many as you possibly can since they are an urgent necessity."

(Signed) Jose Balian

We are making another small shipment to Brother Jose Balian of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Spanish.

If you want to help in this work of the Sword Free Literature Fund, your help will be deeply appreciated. We send a receipt for every gift, large or small, and since this work is a nonprofit Christian work, recognized by the Federal Government, gifts are deductible from your taxable income. We have more calls than we can fill for the Sword Free Literature Fund and we will be looking for those who wish to help.

The end never justifies the means whether it be what Carpenter and Williams did in North Carolina or whether it is yoking up of twentieth century fundamentalists with modernists in an effort to get out the Gospel and do good. Wrong is never right.

Evangelist Sumner can be seen and heard:

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Ga.	Toceoa	WLET	1420 KC	8:00 am EST
Ill.	Chicago	WLS	890 KC	11:00 pm CST
Kan.	Newton	KJRG (FM)	92.1 MC	9:30 pm CST
Mich.	Detroit	CKLW	800 KC	2:30 pm EST
"	Grand Rapids	WFUR	1570 KC	9:30 am EST
"	Muskegan	WMUS	1090 KC	2:30 pm EST
Mo.	Springfield	KWTO	560 KC	2:00 pm CST
Nebr.	Columbus	KJSK	900 KC	Wed. 1:30 pm CST
Pa.	Montrose	WPEL	1250 KC	1:30 pm EST
So. Car.	Greenville	WMUU	1260 KC	4:30 pm EST
Tenn.	Chattanooga	WAPO	1150 KC	7:00 pm EST
Texas	Dallas	WFAA	820 KC	7:30 am CST
"	Longview	KLTI	1280 KC	8:00 am CST
Wash.	Seattle	KGDN	630 KC	7:30 am PST

Destruction of Sodom, Natural or Miraculous?

By the Editor

We are grateful for a nice letter from a Baptist layman in Texas who says:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Just want to say how much I enjoy reading THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and how much I appreciate your firm stand on the fundamental teachings of our Lord in His Word."

"In this connection, I am enclosing a Baptist adult union quarterly for July, August and September, and would refer you to page 51, Monday's daily Bible reading for August 4th. Note the writer's comment in second paragraph, namely: Whether the fire 'rained' or came from a volcano."

"You know God's Word says in Genesis 19:24, 'Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of Heaven.' They even placed that as the 'key verse' at the top of the reading, and then come along and try to put a question mark after it."

"I have watched in the Baptist Standard (I am a member of First Baptist Church in L——) to see if they would refute this, but thus far have found none, neither have I heard any preachers in this area refute their insinuation in this particular reading."

"Sincerely,"

(signed) E. C. F.

Along with the letter came the Baptist training union quarterly

for the past summer and on page 51 the following statement about the destruction of Sodom.

"As fire and brimstone rained upon the cities, the two men (angels v. 16) brought wavering Lot out just in time to save him. Whether the fire 'rained' or came from a volcano, the timing itself was miraculous."

But why should we find trouble in believing the literal, physical miracle stated in Genesis 19:24, "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven?"

Notice that the word "Lord" is used twice in that verse. Once the Lord is mentioned as the one who did it: "The Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire." Once the word is used to show from whence the fire came: "Brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven." The Lord Himself rained the fire and brimstone, and it came from the Lord in Heaven. So the Bible literally says.

Was this natural fire from a volcano, and was the destruction of Sodom a matter of nature, as other cities have been destroyed by volcanos, or was the fire supernatural, eternal fire? Jude 7 tells us that Sodom and Gomorrah "are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." It was not natural fire but supernatural eternal fire, the same fire that is in Hell, of which that was a clear picture and example, the Bible tells us.

Unbelievers and scoffers like to say that the Bible account of Jonah and the whale is only a parable, not literally true. When Christian people get to wanting to be scientific and scholarly and so approve evolution instead of direct creation, they say that the account in Genesis is "allegorical and figurative." So the Interpreter's Bible, that infidel's commentary, says that Jesus did not really walk on the water but only appeared to do so, that He walked "by the sea" instead of "on the sea."

How foolish, and how full of unbelief it is to try to explain away the literal miracles in the Bible! Unbelieving men want to find human sources for the Bible instead of supernatural infallible revelation. Nels Ferre wants to teach an incarnation without literal virgin birth. But Bible-believers have no trouble in accepting that there is nothing too hard for God, and when He said that He rained fire and brimstone "from the Lord out of heaven" to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, it literally happened that way.

It is painful to note that our Baptist brother reports no preacher in his area had objected to this effort to explain away the literal miracle. Is that because, trained

She Says Thanks

Mrs. Edward I. Gray of Phoenix, Arizona, writes, "Dear Editor, just want to say what a blessing THE SWORD OF THE LORD has been to my heart in the almost six years I have known our precious Jesus as my personal Saviour. I have given subscriptions to several members of my family"

What Happens to Drinkers and to Non-Drinkers?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

But the London Daily Express published the recollections of the Rt. Hon. David Kirkwood, M.P. It concerned boys who grew up together at Parkhead, Glasgow. All set out to "have a good time." Some thought it was to be found in drinking and gambling. Others refrained, joining a temperance youth club.

This is what happened to the Jolly Twelve (all drinkers):

1. House agent, poisoned himself at 30.
2. Found dead at 30.
3. Committed suicide at 31.
4. Disappeared at 25.
5. Died in mental home at 30.
6. Drowned himself in Clyde at 26.
7. Poisoned himself at 32.
8. Did wrong and fled the country.
9. Jumped into Clyde—drowned, 35.
10. Committed suicide, 36.
11. Committed suicide, 35.
12. ? ? ?

Here's what happened to the Abstainers:

1. Became manager, Beardmore Mills.
2. Manager, great engineering works.
3. Succeeded to father's business.
4. Controls successful business.
5. Engineer, retired well off.
6. Errand boy, now owns business.
7. Foreman, large building firm.
8. High position in leather factory.
9. Master builder, Glasgow.
10. Manager, important Glasgow business.
11. Member of Parliament (Kirkwood).

Of the drinkers none lived beyond 36. Of those who joined the Temperance Club, all lived to at least 63, and every one of them prospered.

W. A. Scharffenberg,
in Youth's Instructor

A young man convicted of murder in a drunken brawl, was asked if he had anything to say before the noose was adjusted. To the gaping crowd he said, "Boys, in the bottom of every glass, look for a rope."

In Baptist schools, they have already been taught to explain away miraculous happenings? Or is it because they are such slaves to denominational idolatry that they do not wish or do not dare to differ by defending the Bible?

*Yes, the author did . . .
. . . put it to the proof!*

Dr. J. C. Macaulay, professor at Moody Bible Institute, wrote of Prayer—Asking and Receiving, "This is one of the most straightforward books on prayer that I know, attempting no modification of the biblical teaching but presenting it frankly and believably. It is apparent that the writer has himself put it to the proof and has found that God is true."

He put it to the proof and found God true when as a twenty-year-old youth he needed money to go to college. Down in the bushes in a bare ravine under a chaparral bush on his face he claimed God's promises. The next day he had the money to start.

He put it to the proof and found God true when in college his tuition was coming due and he had no money. Again he went earnestly to God in prayer. Soon a job opened up teaching arithmetic to backward boys and the money was provided.

He put it to the proof and found God true when his college clothes became too thin for further patching and with his roommate prayed until assurance came. Less than 48 hours later a long distance call from an uncle came asking how much money he needed for clothes!

He put it to the proof and found God true when in 1926 he resigned his church, promising God he would never again accept a regular salary but would trust Him for all provisions. Now for nearly 33 years God has remarkably provided for him, his family, and the tremendous ministry of Sword of the Lord Foundation.

He put it to the proof and found God true when he, his wife and a secretary agreed to ask God for exactly \$30 to come in a certain day to meet radio expenses. The answer came in a miraculously heart-warming way which left no doubt as to the power of prayer.

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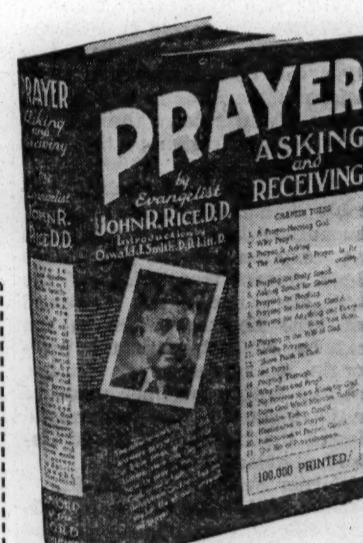
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Torrey Memorial Conference at L. A.

Reuben Archer Torrey, internationally known evangelist, Bible teacher and missionary statesman, will be honored in the observance of the 24th Annual TORREY MEMORIAL BIBLE CONFERENCE under the auspices of the BIBLE INSTITUTE OF LOS ANGELES, INC. The conference will be conducted January 25 through February 1 in eight southern California churches. Dr. Torrey, first Dean of the Bible Institute, was greatly instrumental in the establishing and growth of the fifty-year old Christian training institution.

Cooperating churches include the First Baptist Church of Torrance, the First Brethren Church of Long Beach, the Temple Baptist Church of Fullerton, the First Baptist Church of Downey, North Long Beach Brethren Church, Bethany Baptist Church of West Covina, Venice Baptist Church, Venice, and the Church of the Open Door.

The conference will officially open on Saturday evening, February 24, at a mass Youth For Christ Rally in the Church of the Open Door. Dr. Bob Cook will be the speaker.

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Dangerous Tendencies . . .

(Continued from page 3)

spired only if and when it speaks to one who reads it, only if and when it is God's inspired message to someone who takes it. And so in the neo-orthodox position, God's Word itself is never static, never settled, as verily the Word of God. And so neo-orthodoxy boldly affirms that it is never static. That is why Barth and Niebuhr vary so widely on neo-orthodoxy, and why Barth himself is so inconsistent.

Barth says, "The Bible is God's Word, so far as God speaks through it."

So Berkof, in *The Word of God and the Reformed Faith*, page 69, says about the Barthian position:

"The Word of God (according to the Barthians) can never become static, can never be so objectified that we can lay our hands on it and say, Here it is. It does not lie in a book as an abiding possession of man, of which he can make use. It is always God speaking to, God addressing man, that is, some particular man . . . Strictly speaking, it cannot even be said that parts of the Bible are in themselves the Word of God—for this would again make the Word static—but parts of it may become for some individual the Word of God, and then come to that individual with the force of a personal message."

So in the context of neo-orthodoxy, I insist that our orthodoxy is static, and I insist that Barthian theology is utterly wrong. And in that sense, I think the Wheaton College statement is wrong and misleading, and is an unwarranted concession to unbelief.

Another statement which seems

Book Reviews

TRANSLATORS AND TRANSLATIONS, by Harold L. Phillips. Written in a pleasing narrative style, this book traces the translations of the Bible from the days before Wycliffe down through the King James Version to the most recent translations.

The book is interesting, a valuable handbook. Unfortunately, the author does not have or does not express clear convictions about correct translations of the Bible. He is not enough impressed with the liberties taken in the text by Moffatt, with the inaccurate paraphrases of Phillips, and the author is either unaware or in favor of the modernistic bias of the translators of the Revised Standard Version.

Warner Press, 104 pages, \$2.

CHRISTIANITY RIGHTLY SO-CALLED by Samuel G. Craig. The author says, "The aim of this book is to distinguish between Christianity and its counterfeits in a manner understandable by the man in the pew as well as the man in the pulpit. Its purpose is exposition, not defense . . ." Dr. Craig was for thirty years editor, first of *The Presbyterian*, later of *Christianity Today*. The work is evangelical, scholarly, with ten strong chapters and index, 274 pages, Presbyterian and Reform Publishing Company, \$2.25.

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD

to me to be a great flaw and a slipping away from the historic Christian position in "The Wheaton Position on Inspiration" is in the ninth paragraph. That paragraph says:

"Although God sometimes revealed truth by dictation, inspiration was not by any mechanical means. Rather, the Spirit of God employed the attention, the investigation, the memory, the imagination, the logic, in a word, all the faculties of the human authors of the Bible. God's guidance worked through the free exercise of the authors' historical and theological capabilities. So far from being automata or stenographers, the Biblical writers made their own choice of words, expressed themselves in their own style, and revealed in their writings their own particular personalities. The message which the Biblical writers proclaimed was decidedly their own. God, however, prepared them, illuminated them, and divinely energized them, so that their prophetic message would be at the same time His divine message to men."

Let us consider. That statement says, "The Biblical writers made their own choice of words." That, however, contradicts what the Bible expressly says. Paul, speaking of his own inspiration in I Corinthians 2:13, says, "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual;" or as the American Standard Version has it, "comparing spiritual things with spiritual words." Wheaton College professors say that Bible writers "made their own choice of words." But Paul, by divine inspiration, says that the Holy Ghost made the choice of the words, and that they were distinctly "not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth." And not once, but literally dozens of times in the Bible, the Lord speaks of divine revelation as "my words," and "the words of the Lord," and "every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God," etc. Of course God used human instruments. Men were not unconscious. But the words were God's words, the Bible itself bearing its own witness.

Again, that paragraph of the Wheaton College statement says, "Rather, the Spirit of God employed the attention, the investigation, the memory, the imagination, the logic, in a word, all the faculties of the human authors of the Bible." What part of the Bible is human imagination? Here Wheaton professors have said what the Bible itself does not say.

What part of the Bible is the result of "the investigation" of the human authors? That is an old, old teaching of modernists and of higher critics. They say that Mark talked with Peter and found out what to write in the book of Mark. They say that Luke talked to Mary and found what Mary said about the virgin birth. They say that Moses copied some of Genesis from Babylonian records. That is the argument of unbelief. My good brethren went wrong on that, in my humble opinion.

If the Bible were written as a result of research, it was written like any other textbook. If the Bible is made according to "the authors' historical and theological capabilities" as this statement says, then it would have the same mistakes as other histories and other theological treatises. If the Bible is the result of human "imagination" as this statement says, then it would have the failures of human imagination.

Our friends here have a group of fallible men making up the Bible, and the Holy Spirit in some strange way guarding and letting it come out all right, though it is human in its source, human in its facts, human in its theology. But that is not what the Bible claims for itself.

Dr. Tenney Also Taught That the Words Originated With Men

Dr. Tenney, head of the graduate school at Wheaton College, wrote a book, *The Genius of the Gospels*, copyrighted 1951, by Eerdmans Publishing Company. This book was approved by the theological faculty of the college. Dr. Tenney claims "a distinctly conservative position" in this book,

but throughout he repeatedly states that the writers chose not only the words, but selected the materials to include in the Gospels, and selected the method of treatment. He says, "Each writer is adapting the story to the purpose of his work" (page 26). Concerning the Synoptic Gospels, Dr. Tenney proposes the suggestion that possibly "each of the three had contact with the other two at some time in his career, and that he modified his own work, or made a second edition of it in order to include the additional information drawn from the others" (page 35). He asks this as a question, but as one possibly to be answered in the affirmative. And he goes into some detail suggesting how the authors might have gotten together to revise and edit their manuscripts! Repeatedly Dr. Tenney speaks of "the author's design," or "those for whom he [the human author] intended his Gospel," or of the purpose of the human writer of the Gospel.

I called attention of Dr. Edman and Dr. Tenney to what seem to me to be serious errors. Dr. Edman agreed that he and Dr. Tenney would discuss the book, *Genius of the Gospels*, with me. When I met them there were five of the Bible department teachers present, and the publisher. Dr. Edman and Dr. Tenney agreed that the book left the wrong impression. Dr. Tenney promised that he would write a new introduction to the book if it should be published again, and did write it and sent it to me. But Dr. Edman and Dr. Tenney did not agree to withdraw the book from circulation, and, as the later statement shows, did not change their idea of inspiration that "the Biblical writers made their own choice of words."

I say this is the wrong approach to the infallible inspiration of the Bible. The words are God's words. He used men to write them down. Sometimes the men understood what they wrote and sometimes they did not. Sometimes they wrote about personal matters that affected them, sometimes about things of which they had no knowledge whatever. But in each case, according to the clear statements of the Bible, God put His words in the mouth of the inspired speakers, or inspired writers, and so men wrote or spoke "not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth."

This enormous emphasis on human sources which has now become so popular, going far beyond what the Bible itself says about them, naturally, sooner or later, puts more emphasis on scholarship and on scientific opinion than is proper and safe.

So Men, Emphasizing the Human, Minimizing the Miraculous in the Bible Honor Scientists' Opinion More Than God's Word

So Dr. Mixter of Wheaton College, science editor for *Christian Life* magazine, can publish concerning Genesis, "Some of this creation may have been immediately; other things may have been the result of process" ("Life and How It Began," article in *Christian Life*, page 19, September, 1955). And the same article is somewhat friendly to theistic evolution.

So Professor Buswell of Wheaton College can write in *Christian Life* magazine in "The Story of Creation," May, 1956, "This would indicate that the age of man could be in terms of 200,000 or 300,000 years, as anthropologists today conservatively estimate" (page 17). That article often scoffs at old-fashioned fundamentalists, and it infers that the genealogies in the Bible are unreliable or have no meaning for us.

I am saying that evangelical leaders should be alarmed and concerned at the drift toward unbelief. Good men, loyal to institutions, and especially emphasizing scholarship, sometimes slip further away from the historic position than they intend to do, or they take a position which may not destroy their own faith, but which leads to the shipwreck of others.

For years students of Wheaton College have been taught to laugh at Dr. Harry Rimmer, sometimes

How the Church at Jerusalem Did it?

(Continued from page 2)

But the primary thing that we had come to see was the assembly plant. We got out of the bus and entered a door that led to the beginning of the assembly line. There a bare black chassis was dropped down onto a chain that went along past the various groups of workmen who completed each car as it moved down the assembly line.

Every seven minutes, as I remember, a completed automobile came off the assembly line. It took about seventy minutes from the time a car began on the assembly line until it left the line a finished product. The whole process was thrilling to watch. We saw all the men functioning and doing the job they were supposed to do. First the axles were attached, the engine was put in, and the steering column was inserted. Then an overhead crane brought the body, which dropped

at William Jennings Bryan, and at humble Christians like this editor, because of our defense of the faith. That is a bad sign.

And again and again hearts have been broken because graduates of Wheaton College, like Sherman Roddy, have lost their faith in the authority of the Bible and the essentials of the historic Christian faith. Every sensible and good man surely will be concerned about such cases, and will try to avoid such a shipwreck of the faith of others in the future.

Is It Wrong to Call Attention to Errors and Use People's Names in Defending the Faith?

Some may believe in the Word of God, but believe it is never correct to be personal, never correct to name individuals.

Such people should remember that John the Baptist faced Herod openly and denounced his sins. They should remember that Paul reports in Galatians, chapter two, how he rebuked Peter to his face for that great evangelist's compromise, which had led Barnabas and others astray. Thank God that Peter listened to Paul.

We remember that Paul said, "This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes" (II Tim. 1:15). And again, just before Paul went out to offer himself as a bloody sacrifice, beheaded at Rome, he wrote, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia" (II Tim. 4:10).

If it was right for Paul to reprove Peter openly for compromise and sin, if it was right to name Demas and Phygelus and Hermogenes as turning away from Paul to avoid the reproach of Christ, then it is proper to call names today, with as kindly a purpose and as meticulous care for the truth as Paul had.

And will this unworthy editor be thanked for his concern for the Bible and for the faith of Christians? Not by many! Rather, like the Prophet Jeremiah, called to preach in a time of great declension and sin, with the captivity of Judah impending, was inspired to write, I may say, "Woe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury; yet every one of them doth curse me" (Jer. 15:10). That woe which God has put upon me, that fire in my bones, will make me a subject of slander and abuse and misrepresentation.

But I must say: The battle of the Lord centers around the inspiration and infallible accuracy of the Bible, the Word of God. If Christians stay with that, we will stay with the virgin birth, the deity of Christ, His atoning death, His bodily resurrection, and all the historic Christian faith. Oh, then in Jesus' dear name, let every reader beware and not be led away from solid faith in the verbally inspired Word of God.

—The End—

down on the chassis and was bolted in place. The wheels were next put on and the upholstery installed. Then the hood was attached and the car was finally completed. A worker got in, turned the key, and started the engine. Then he drove the car off to the testing grounds where final checks were made.

As I watched the thrilling scene, I wondered what would happen if the man in charge of the plant should walk through and find no finished cars coming off the assembly line. I imagine it would not take him long to go back to headquarters and call in all the division superintendents and say, "Hey, what's going on here? Why aren't we producing any automobiles?" Possibly the man who runs the steel plant would say, "Well, we are producing steel." And the man who runs the glass factory might say, "Well, our division is producing glass according to schedule." And possibly the man who was in charge of making the steel stampings would say, "We are producing the steel stampings for the cars." Someone else might say, "We are producing transmissions," and another might say, "We are producing the engines for the cars." But the boss would likely roar, "But what about the cars which are supposed to be coming off the assembly line? We are in the business of making Ford cars. That is our primary job. Making transmissions, making glass, making engines, making wheels, making stampings, making steel—all of these things count only if we produce finished Ford automobiles. If we fail in that, we fail in the main thing."

And in like manner I am wondering what the Lord Jesus Christ would say if He should come down and look around churches. He would find many of the people busy. We are busy in the Sunday School. We are busy in the Training Union. We are busy in the services. We are busy in the prayer time. We are busy in this or we are busy in that, but the question that would come from the Saviour's lips is, "Are you busy about the main thing? Are you doing the primary thing, the thing that I left you to do?" Are we doing that job? And if we are failing about soul winning, we are failing about the main thing. We are failing in the commission that Jesus Christ left us to do.

II. Power Promised for Obedying the Great Commission

The second thing that I want us to see in the New Testament churches is the power promised to get the job done. In Luke 24:49,

(Continued on page 7)

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How the Church at Jerusalem Did it?

(Continued from page 6)

we find where New Testament churches got their power: "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." As the disciples did tarry in the city of Jerusalem for ten days after the Lord Jesus went back to Heaven, the fullness of the Holy Spirit was given. The power came down, and as Peter preached on the day of Pentecost three thousand souls were saved. Here the New Testament churches demonstrated their power. My friend, if there ever were a day when the churches need to go back to the New Testament power necessary to get the job done, it is today.

We have substituted all kinds of things for the power of God. Zechariah 4:6 says it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Tragically, the majority of churches today substitute formalism and ceremony for the power of Almighty God in their services. D. L. Moody said, "It is a sin to try to do God's work without God's power."

Charles Spurgeon, famous pastor of the great Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, said, "Let the preacher always confess before he preaches that he relies upon the Holy Spirit. Let him burn his manuscript and depend upon the Holy Spirit. If the Spirit does not come to help him, let him be still and let the people go home and pray that the Spirit will help him next Sunday." This great preacher realized that pulpit eloquence was not enough—it takes the power of God to win souls to Christ.

We can substitute programs, but programs that are not endowed with the power from on high will never get people saved. How our preachers and Sunday School teachers need the fullness of the power of the Holy Spirit to get people saved and get the job done that He has given us.

III. New Testament Churches Got Results in Souls Saved

We have seen how New Testament churches were given the job of soul winning, and then were given the power of the Holy Spirit to get the job done. Now we see in the book of Acts how that God's work done in God's way produced tremendous results. On the day of Pentecost when Peter preached as the power of God came down, a great crowd listened and were convicted in their hearts. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). In verse 47 of the same chapter, we see again the results of the New Testament church acting according to the Great Commission and the power of the Spirit when we read, "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Evidently the New Testament church got people saved every day.

Tragedy of tragedies, we find that many churches today can go weeks and weeks, and have no one coming to Christ. Oh, God help us to see that that is not New Testament Christianity. That is not the kind of thing Jesus Christ left for His churches to do.

Again in Acts 4:4 we read, "Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand." A number of years ago I was a member of a church which was voting on a man who had candidated for the pastorate. During the business meeting I got up and asked the following question, "Can anyone tell me whether the preacher we are considering is a soul winner or not? Is he getting people saved in the church of which he is now pastor?" I never will forget how one of the leaders of the church got up and said very pompously, "Brother Handford, here in this church we are not very much interested in numbers."

It just so happened that before the business meeting started I had been reading the annual report of the church. So I replied, "It is

perfectly obvious that here in this church we are not much interested in numbers. From reading over the annual church report for last year, I find that this church of some seven hundred members has in the past year been able to win a grand total of seven people to Jesus Christ. This church has sat back and let this whole town go to Hell and not done the job that Jesus Christ left for us to do." But this is merely the sad plight of most of our orthodox churches today.

I know that numbers are not everything and some preachers have sometimes exaggerated or misused numbers. But in the book of Acts God recorded how many conversions the apostles had.

I am impressed by the fact that Dr. Lee Roberson had 1,271 people baptized in the Highland Park Baptist Church of Chattanooga last year. And I am definitely not impressed by some preacher in Possum Trot who says at the end of the year, "Well, we didn't have anyone saved this year, but we don't believe in numbers anyhow." Most churches which keep no records and criticize others who do, are not getting people saved. Any church ought to regularly and systematically see people being saved. Anything less than this is not New Testament Christianity.

And again we read, "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women" (Acts 5:14). Notice the Scripture says that multitudes were being saved. This was New Testament Christianity.

In many of our churches there are people who would fight for the fundamentals of the faith. They would fight if the deity of Christ were involved or if the inspiration of the Bible were attacked. They would fight at the drop of a hat if anyone should try to tell them that salvation could come by anything except by faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. These people are fundamental in doctrine. But did you know there are two kinds of modernism? First, there is modernism of doctrine. I believe God has

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

interested in the visitation program during the week, and did not call on the unsaved and invite them to come out, don't be surprised if they fail to show up and if there is no public decision as the invitation to trust Christ is given on Sunday. If you are to have people saved in your church, you will have to work at the matter every day. A church where the folks are genuinely concerned to get people saved through the week will be having decisions regularly on Sunday. This is merely the law of sowing and reaping which God honors. A church which sows soul winning is going to reap souls. A church which does not sow soul winning will not have people saved.

But Acts 5:42 goes on to another point which I believe is the biggest weakness in our churches

today: "... Daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." This weakness I mention is in the matter of house-to-house visitation. In some sense your church has a responsibility to God for every home in your community. Your obligation does not end simply with your own immediate family and friends. You are to go out and get as many others as you can to come and be saved. You can't lightly excuse yourself by saying, "Well, the church is here; let the unsaved come and be saved if they want to."

You won't find anyplace in the Scripture where God has commanded the unsaved to come to your church to be saved. The Bible says, "Go and get them," but we say, "Let them come if they want to." We would rather ring a

church bell instead of ringing doorbells and inviting people to come. God's method is for Christians to go and be witnesses for Him wherever they go. The word "witness" is used in the New Testament 175 times. God means for witnessing to be our main job, our main obligation.

In the matter of house-to-house visitation the Jehovah's Witnesses put fundamental Christians to shame. The members of this false cult are dead wrong in doctrine, but with what diligence they go from house to house spreading what they believe is right. How much more we ought to be concerned about getting the Gospel out to the lost in our communities!

Every Christian has the responsibility to be a soul winner.

(Continued on page 8)



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"I read the first chapter to my girls this afternoon as we sat in our patio in the glorious California sunshine, and we were truly blessed. I read a little more to myself and will read a chapter each day to my girls until we finish the book. Of course, we have a little discussion after the reading and I really do this to check on them to see if they really paid strict attention to what was read.

"Thank you, Dr. Rice, for your untiring efforts in writing such a book full of information for people such as I and my family. How I do wish this book could be translated into other languages, making it available to other races of people who do not read the English language. Do you have such translations? I am especially interested in a Japanese translation as there is such a need both here and abroad for just such information for my people . . ."

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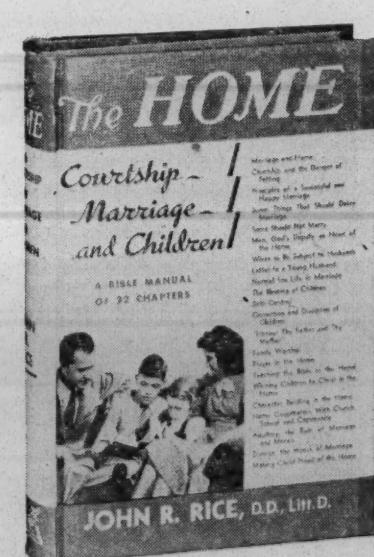
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How the Church at Jerusalem Did it?

(Continued from page 7)

In many churches folks have the idea that the pastor is to do all the soul-winning work. They have the strange idea that they pay the pastor to win all the souls. But this is simply not the New Testament way. A preacher should be a real soul winner and lead his people in soul winning, but he has utterly failed if he cannot get his people to see their responsibility to win souls to Christ. Great soul-winning churches are not made with soul-winning pastors principally, but by great soul-

winning people led by soul-winning pastors. No church will ever become a great soul-winning church unless the people in the pews catch the burden for lost souls and go out to do something about it. Second Corinthians 5:17-20 clearly teaches that every Christian first becomes a new creature in Christ and then is to be a minister of reconciliation and an ambassador for Christ. This means that every Christian has the responsibility of winning souls, not just the pastor or certain church leaders.

Dr. Robert Glover, who for years was a great leader in the China Inland Mission, said:

"No principle is of more vital importance today, whether to the church at home or on the mission field. The substantial failure of world evangelization is wrapped up in it, for as long as the spread of the Gospel in any land depends solely upon a core of official workers, however efficient and earnest, the outlook is hopeless. The only hope lies in response to the truth—every Christian a missionary."

And he was right. Until the church becomes reconciled to the

idea that every Christian should be a soul winner, the job of reaching a lost and dying world will never be accomplished.

Irvin S. Cobb, famous Southern humorist, came across the following scene one day. Henry, a colored man, was sitting on the doorstep of his ramshackle house. He had a can of worms on the steps beside him, and with a cane pole was fishing in the mud puddle formed by a rut in the road at the bottom of his steps. Cobb asked him, "Henry, what in the world are you doing?" Henry replied, "T'se fishin'." Whereupon Irvin S. Cobb queried, "Henry, don't you know there are no fish in that mud puddle?"

"Yes suh, boss," answered Henry, "but it's so handy to fish right here on my front porch."

You laugh at Henry's foolishness, but our churches are doing just exactly like Henry. We have been commissioned to win souls and be fishers of men. But we do our fishing in our church houses where the lost folks are not, because it's "so handy." We need to go where the fish are and take the Gospel to them.

Suppose a man were appointed as a lifeguard at a public beach. See him sitting on the lifeguard tower in his red suit, his muscular body all tanned by the sun. Suppose that out yonder in the water a swimmer gets into difficulty and cries out, "Help, save me!" What would you think if the lifeguard would only get to his feet and yell, "Come on over to the lifeguard station and I will be glad to save you."

You laugh about that matter, but that is exactly what the churches have been doing. We have been sitting in our pews and have been saying to the unsaved, "Come to church and we will be glad to save you." Then we wonder why they don't come. My friends, it is time that we got up out of our pews and went out to carry Jesus Christ to the people. There are plenty of people whom you could win if you would. God has given you the hearts of some neighbors and friends whom you could win if you simply cared enough to go after them. There are people all around you who need Christ. Unless we let this become an absorbing passion of our hearts and minds, the job that Christ gave us to do will never be accomplished.

I believe the best way to get this job of reaching the people in our community done is through a regular weekly visitation program. Setting up a definite time each week for visitation of the lost can transform the soul-winning life of your church and can transform your community. If the Christians in the community will get behind such a project and will back it up and really make it go, this can mean a new day for your church as far as soul winning is concerned.

Several years ago I started a church near Wheaton. I was then working as full-time manager of the Sword of the Lord Publishers, but there was a community that needed a church. We began with thirteen—seven teachers and six pupils. (I still don't know who the seventh teacher taught.) In that work we began and organized on the basis that everyone was responsible for visitation, and I preached visitation all the time. The folks got sold that going house-to-house with the Gospel was the most important thing in the world.

In just three year's time we saw that little church grow from nothing to nearly two hundred in Sunday School, simply because folks visited and won souls. We set aside Monday night for visitation. It was a full night. We visited whether it was raining or nice weather. We visited when it was cold and when it was hot; whether there was snow or not. We visited and visited and God, week by week, began to give us souls. Leading members of that community were saved, and it was an amazing thing to see how a regular visitation ministry really worked and quickly built a strong church. Our people won others to Christ in their homes or got them under conviction and brought them out to the public service where they were saved. I became convinced that this program will work anywhere it is really tried.

The biggest soul-winning churches in the world all have

weekly visitation programs. The Highland Park Baptist Church at Chattanooga, Tennessee, has over 1,000 people baptized each year. Last year 1,271 were won to Christ and baptized. The Sunday School attendance averages over 4,400. Dr. Lee Roberson went to the church as pastor sixteen years ago to spend just six months in the church. They had only one building and the Sunday School attendance was less than 600 at that time. In sixteen years the Highland Park Baptist Church has grown to over 16,000 members. In those sixteen years there have been people saved and baptized in every major service of the church except two. That means Sunday morning, Sunday evening, midweek prayer service, every week—only two services have not seen someone coming to Christ at the public invitation.

Dr. Roberson has built this church with an aggressive visitation program. They have visitation every Thursday night and on that night between 200 and 350 folks go out from house to house by two's to win people to Christ and get them into the church where they can grow.

My friends, it is no accident when a church is a soul-winning church. A church becomes a soul-winning church on purpose, because it sets out to obey the Great Commission, because Christian people get stirred up to win souls. God help us to see it! God help us to do it!

A Soul-Winning Church Is a Happy Church

A soul-winning church is a happy church. A soul-winning church has the joy of the Lord all the time, because seeing people come to Jesus Christ Sunday by Sunday in the services is something to constantly stir the hearts of God's people and keep them happy. Psalm 126:6 promises that the soul winner will come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. There is no joy like the joy of soul winning.

I held a revival a couple of years ago in a church where they had been having problem after problem. There had been one serious case of open immorality. Then there was a serious split which had been festering for some time. There had been so much criticizing and trouble in the church that it seemed very difficult to have a revival. I did the best I could and we did have some people saved in the services, but not many. I kept bearing down on soul winning, and the Christians began to get concerned for the unsaved. Although we did not in two weeks' time since the revival during the services, the pastor wrote me just two weeks after the meeting closed and said, "Brother Handford, since you have been gone, folks have taken up the matter of visitation and soul winning is concerned."

I believe the best way to get this job of reaching the people in our community done is through a regular weekly visitation program. Setting up a definite time each week for visitation of the lost can transform the soul-winning life of your church and can transform your community. If the Christians in the community will get behind such a project and will back it up and really make it go, this can mean a new day for your church as far as soul winning is concerned.

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The biggest soul-winning churches in the world all have

A two-edged sword — A double-barreled shotgun!

The Ruin of a Christian by Dr. John R. Rice, is a two-edged sword that cuts both ways . . . a double-barreled shotgun that shoots both saint and sinner!

LEADS SINNERS TO CHRIST!

When this book was first published, we were astonished that many of the reviewers spoke of it as a book of evangelistic sermons.

Dr. Hyman J. Appelman who wrote the Introduction, said: "The message of it is mostly to Christians, but there is enough gospel in it, enough passionate proclamation of the plan of salvation, to lead any sinner to Christ."

The *Christian Herald* said: "Here is evangelistic preaching with all the fine passion, humor and drama of Dwight Moody. A book for the backslidden—and the careless who stand in peril of backsliding. Twelve sermons that bless and burn—and challenge mightily."

The *Baptist and Reflector* said: "Christians are under consideration chiefly in these messages, but the gospel is plain enough for lost people to find and know the Lord."

Here is a letter from a woman in Logansport, Indiana: "I am writing you for I feel I must tell you I have been saved. Why must I tell you? For it was while reading your book, *The Ruin of a Christian*, third chapter—'The Curse of Hidden Sins'—that I came to know the Lord . . . The book was handed to me by my landlady, and now good Christian sister. I laid it aside at that time, but when my need was greatest, the Lord put it in my hands again. Praise His holy name! O Brother Rice, it is a wonderful joy to be a Christian—to have the burdens of the worldly things lifted from you. Since I was baptized I have known such happiness and peace . . ."

How glad we are to offer you this book which is good for both sinners and saints, this double-barreled gospel, this two-edged sword of sermons that reprove, rebuke, exhort both saints and sinners and plow deep in the consciences of men to show them the ruin of sin and the need for mercy.

BUT THE BOOK IS PRIMARILY A MESSAGE TO CHRISTIANS

Moody Monthly says: "Here is a book with sermons addressed to Christians, with the commendable purpose of arousing them from spiritual lethargy and worldliness, convicting them of sin, and preparing the way for a new start in godly living. Some will feel that the author is too rough—and it may be so, but to break up dry and fallow ground one must plow hard and deep. The hurt of the plow is forgotten in the joy of the harvest."

Dr. J. C. Macaulay, on staff of Moody Bible Institute, says: "My opinion is that you have given us your best work so far; at least on a par with the best passages in your book on *Prayer*. The sermon entitled 'Washing Dirty Feet' is perhaps the peak of excellence in the volume. I should want to possess the book if it were only for that one sermon. Not only have you given us sound doctrine and keen application, but you have coupled Apostolic boldness with rare tenderness. The sermon on Lot is a timely warning, whose solemn message will doubtless burn into many a conscience . . ."

Dr. Bob Shuler writes: "It is exactly what is needed and that kind of preaching and indoctrination must come or else the apostasy is going to completely get us."

IS THE BOOK THAT GOOD?

Dr. J. C. Macaulay said, ". . . You have given us your best work so far; at least on a par with the best passages in your book on *Prayer*." Is this really the best book Dr. Rice has written, better than his book on *Prayer*? The *Christian Herald* says: "Here is evangelistic preaching with all the fine passion, humor and drama of Dwight Moody." Is this book really as good as the preaching of D. L. Moody? Of course, we do not claim that. We leave it to readers to judge. We only thank God that He has seen fit to bless these messages. We thank God that they convict and burn in the hearts of people. We thank God that they change the whole outlook on life of lukewarm Christians. We thank God they convict and save sinners. We only know that God blesses the book tremendously, and we want you to have a copy.

Get a copy of this tremendous book for yourself, for your pastor, for your friends. Help bring a round-the-world revival. 253 pages, 12 important chapters. A big, big book on a big, big topic. Buy your copy today. Only \$2.50. Add 5% for postage and handling.

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Beautiful harps through all the choir!

Beautiful crowns on every brow!
Beautiful palms the conquerors show!
Beautiful robes the ransomed wear!
Beautiful all who enter there!

Beautiful throne for God the Lamb!
Beautiful seats at God's right hand!
Beautiful rest, all wanderings cease!
Beautiful home of perfect peace!

—George Gill.

Praying Through

(Continued from page 1)

for the first thing that comes into our mind without giving proper thought to the question of whether it is really a thing that we ought to have or not; but when we have decided that we should pray for the thing, we should keep on praying until we get it.

The word translated "importunity" in the eighth verse is a deeply significant word. Its primary meaning is "shamelessness," that is, it sets forth the persistent determination in prayer to God that will not be put to shame by any apparent refusal on God's part to grant the thing that we ask. This is a very startling way that our Lord Jesus employs to set forth the necessity of "importunity" and persistence in prayer. It is as if the Lord Jesus would have us understand that God would have us draw nigh to Him with a resolute determination to obtain the things that we seek, a determination that will not be put to shame by any seeming refusal or delay on God's part.

Happy Example of the Syro-phenician Woman

Our Heavenly Father delights in the holy boldness on our part that will not take "no" for an answer. The reason why He delights in it is because it is an expression of great faith, and nothing pleases God more than faith. We have an illustration of this holy boldness in the woman of Syrophoenicia in the fifteenth chapter of Matthew, verses 21 to 28. She came to Jesus Christ for the healing of her daughter. She cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a demon."

But our Lord seemed to pay no attention whatever to her; as Matthew puts it, "He answered her not a word." And His disciples came [to Him] and besought Him, saying, "Send her away for she crieth after us."

In spite of His apparent deafness to her appeal she kept right on crying. Then He turned to her with an apparently more positive rebuff, saying, "I was not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel," and she was not of the house of Israel.

Then she worshipped Him and kept on calling to Him, saying, "Lord, help me."

And then came what almost appears like a cruel rebuff, when our Lord said, "It is not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs." (The word that He used for "dogs" was a peculiar word that meant a little pet dog, and was not at all as harsh as it seems, although it was an apparent refusal to hear her prayer. But, as we shall see, our Lord was simply putting to the test her faith that she might get an even larger blessing.)

Then she said, "Yea, Lord: for even the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's

a loving God yield to the persistent cries of His children and give the things that He longs to give all the time, but which it would not be wise to give, would not be for the person's own good to give, unless they were trained to that persevering faith that will not take "no" for an answer. So we see again that God does not always give us at the first asking what we desire of Him in prayer.

God Wants to Train Us in Persistent Faith

Why is it that God does not give to us the very first time we ask Him, the things that we ask of Him? The answer is plain: God would do more for us, and better for us, than to merely give us that thing. He would do us the far greater good of training us into persistent faith. The things that we get by our other forms of effort than prayer to God, do not always become ours the first time we make an effort to get them; for our own good God compels us to be persistent in our effort, and just so God does not always give us what we ask in prayer the first time we pray. Just as He would train us to be strong men and women along the other lines of effort, so also He would train us to be and make us to be strong men and women of prayer by compelling us to pray hard for the best things. He compels us to "pray through."

Many people in these days tell us that we ought not to pray for the same thing a second time. Sometimes they tell us that the way to pray is to ask God for a thing and then "take it" by faith the first time we ask. That is true oftentimes: when we find a thing definitely promised in the Word we ought to rest upon the naked Word of God, and when we have prayed, just as we saw yesterday, know that we have asked something according to God's will and therefore that the prayer is heard and that we have received; and resting there ask no more but claim the thing as ours.

But that is only one side of the truth. The other side of the truth is, that there are times when it is not made clear the first time, nor the second time, nor the third time, that the thing we ask is according to His will and that therefore the prayer is heard and the thing asked granted; and in such a case we ought to pray on and on and on. While doubtless there are times when we are able through faith in the Word, or through the clear leading of the Holy Spirit, to claim a thing the first time that which we have asked of God; nevertheless, beyond a question there are other times when we must pray again and again and again for the same thing before we get our answer.

Those who claim that they have gotten beyond praying twice for the same thing have either gotten beyond our Master, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, or else they have not gotten up to Him; for we are told distinctly regarding Him in Matthew 26:44, "And he left them again, and went away, and prayed a third time, saying again the same words." The truth is, they have not yet gotten up to the Master; not that they have gotten beyond Him.

It Is Spiritual Laziness and Unbelief to Give Up Too Soon

There are those, and there are many of them, who, when they pray for a thing once or twice and do not get it, stop praying; and they call it "submission to the will of God" to pray no longer when God does not grant their request at the first or second asking, and they say, "Well, perhaps it is not God's will." They call that submission to the will of God: it is spiritual laziness and lack of determination in that most all-important of all human lines of effort, prayer.

None of us ever think of calling it submission to the will of God when we give up after one or two efforts to obtain things by our lack of strength of character. When the strong man of action starts out to accomplish a thing, if he does not accomplish it the first, or the second, or the hundredth time, he keeps hammering away until he does accomplish it; and just so the strong

man of prayer, when he starts to pray for a thing, keeps on praying until he prays it through and obtains what he seeks. How fond we are of calling bad things in our conduct by good names, calling our spiritual inertia and laziness and indifference "submission to the will of God." We should be very careful about what we ask from God, but when we do begin to pray for a thing we should never give up praying for it until we get it, or until God definitely makes it very clear to us that it is not His will to give it.

I am glad that God does not always give us, the first time we ask, the things that we seek from Him. There is no more blessed training in prayer than that which comes through being compelled to ask again and again and again, even through a long period of years, before one obtains that which he seeks from God. Then when it does come what a sense we have that God really is, and that God really answers prayer.

Two People Saved After Years of Prayer

I recall an experience of my own that was full of blessing to me, and full of encouragement to my faith. In my first pastorate there were two persons whom

(Continued on page 10)

Sword Conf. . . .

(Continued from page 1)

America and one of the most effective soul winners.

We look forward to great music, sweet fellowship, earnest times of prayer, and the moving of God's Spirit upon His people.

In the two preceding Sword conferences at Miller Road Baptist Church, there were literally hundreds of preachers from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Arkansas, New Mexico, and other states. The fine Miller Road Baptist Church offers to provide free beds for out-of-town preachers. If you are a pastor, evangelist, or missionary, and wish to have free bed provided, write Rev. Jack Hyles, Pastor, Miller Road Baptist Church, 2008 16th Street, Garland, Texas. Say when you will arrive, how many will be with you, when you will leave.

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Is Jesus God?

by Dr. John R. Rice

1. The first chapter, "Is Jesus God?" was written in answer to a modernist who heard Dr. Rice preach in a tent revival campaign in Brooklyn, N. Y. A burning, convicting chapter showing how no one has a right to be called a Christian or even claim to be a friend of Christ except as he accepts Christ as the virgin-born Saviour and the Bible as the very Word of God.

thrillingly. You need this chapter to answer unbelievers.

4. Chapter four is "Old Testament Prophecies Miraculously Fulfilled in Christ." From these clearly stated prophecies we have infallible proof of the deity of Christ and the inspiration of the Bible. There is wonderful strengthening for the Christian's faith and powerful ammunition against unbelievers.

2. Chapter two, "A Letter to a Modernist," is a second letter to the modernist, dealing with the complaints of the modernists about idolizing the Bible, about narrowness, about being slaves to the letter of the Bible, and showing how Jesus and His disciples regarded infidels and unbelievers.

5. Chapter five is "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ." Possibly the strongest in the book, will convince every open-minded reader, we believe, that the resurrection is the most easily provable fact about Jesus Christ. There are literally, as the Bible says, "many infallible proofs"; here they are given.

3. Chapter three is "The Virgin-Born Saviour." Here is explicit proof that the Bible categorically and repeatedly affirms the virgin birth of Christ; that His virgin birth is implied throughout the Scriptures. Here the five principal arguments of unbelievers against the virgin birth are answered conclusively,

6. The last long, tremendous chapter is "What Is Wrong With a Modernist?" Shows he is an infidel, not a believer; a lost sinner, not a Christian; a fool, not a wise man; an insincere hypocrite, not an honest doubter; and is under an awful curse of God.



Honest scoffers and doubters can be converted. Word has come from preachers led back to faith in Christ and the Bible, away from the modernism taught them in seminaries through the book. We believe it will save thousands from shipwreck of the faith. Ought to be in the hands of every ministerial student, every modernist preacher and, in fact, every earnest Christian worker.

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Praying Through

(Continued from page 9)

God put upon my heart and for whose salvation I prayed through my entire pastorate there. But I left that field of labour without seeing either one of them converted. I went to Germany for further study, and then took a new pastorate in Minneapolis, but I kept on praying every day for those two persons.

I went back to the place where I began my ministry to hold a series of meetings, praying every day for the conversion of those two persons. Then one night in that series of meetings, when I

gave out the invitation for all who would accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, those two persons arose side by side. There was no special reason why they should be side by side, for they were not relatives. Oh, and when I saw those two persons for whom I had prayed every day through all those years standing up side by side to accept the Lord Jesus Christ, what an overwhelming sense came over my soul that there is a God, and that He hears prayer if we meet the conditions of prevailing prayer,

and follow the method of prevailing prayer taught in His own Word!

Revivals Come Because of Persistent Prayer

We find right here why it is that many prayers fail of accomplishing that which we seek from God. We pray and pray and pray, and are almost up to the verge of the attainment of that for which we are praying, and right then, when God is just about to answer the prayer, we stop and we miss the blessing. For example, in many churches and in many communities there are people who are praying for a revival, and the revival does not come at once,

it does not come for some time, and they keep on praying, and they have nearly prayed through, they are right on the verge of attaining what they sought, and if they prayed a little longer the revival would have broken upon them. But they get discouraged, throw up their hands, and quit. Just on the border of the blessing, but they do not cross into the promised land.

In January, 1900 or 1901, the Faculty of the Bible Institute of Chicago instituted a late prayer-meeting Saturday nights from nine to ten o'clock, to pray for a world-wide revival. After we had been praying for some time the thing happened that I knew would happen when we began; people came to me, or to my colleague that was most closely identified with me in the conduct of these meetings, and they would say, "Has the revival come?"

"No, not as far as we can see."

"When is it coming?"
"We don't know."
"How long are you going to pray?"

"Until it comes."

And come it did, a revival that began there in that prayer-meeting room of the Bible Institute in Chicago and then broke out in far-away China, and Japan, and Australia, and New Zealand, and Tasmania, and India, and swept around the world, with most marvelous manifestations of God's saving power, not merely through Mr. Alexander and myself, but through a multitude of others in India and Wales and elsewhere. In Wales, for example, under Evan Roberts and others, resulting in one hundred thousand professed conversions in twelve months. And I believe that God is looking to us today to pray through again.

A Brother Saved After Fifteen Years of Daily Prayer

I prayed fifteen long years for the conversion of my oldest brother. He seemed to be getting farther and farther away from any hope of conversion, but I prayed on, and one morning, my first winter in Chicago, after fifteen years of praying, never missing a single day, God said to me as I knelt in prayer, "I have heard your prayer. You need not pray any more, your brother is going to be converted." And within two weeks my brother was in my home, shut in with sickness which made it impossible for him to leave my home, shut in for two weeks, and then the day he left accepting Christ over in the Bible Institute in Mr. Moody's office, where he and I went to talk and pray together.

I told this incident once when I was holding meetings in a certain city. An elderly woman came to me at the close of the meeting and she said, "I have been praying for the conversion of my brother, who is sixty-three years old, for many years; but, a short time ago, I gave up and stopped praying; but," she added, "I am going to begin my prayers again." And within two weeks of that time she came to me and said, "I have heard from my brother and he has accepted Christ."

Oh, men and women, pray through; *pray through; PRAY THROUGH*. Do not just begin to pray and pray a little while and throw up your hands and quit, but pray, and pray, and pray, until God bends the heavens and comes down.

(From the book, *The Power of Prayer and the Prayer of Power*, published by Zondervan Publishers. Used by permission.)

"Great Chapters of the Bible"

The Atonement

Leviticus 17

Clues Across

- 1 "Priest shall sprinkle _____ blood"
- 3 "It is the _____ of all flesh"
- 5 "And whatsoever man there be _____ the house _____ Israel"
- 8 An Hawaiian garland of flowers
- 10 "And offer them for _____ offerings unto the Lord"
- 12 Blood to be sprinkled on the two _____ posts and on the upper door post (Exod. 12)
- 13 A printer's standard of measurement
- 15 A hot beverage
- 16 "_____ blood of it is for _____ life of it"
- 17 "It is the life of all _____"
- 19 "It _____ the blood that maketh the atonement"
- 20 "That he may _____ that readeth it" Hab. 2:2
- 21 The chief at the place Casiphia (Ezra 8)
- 22 high in pitch
- 23 First two letters of the high priest to whom these instructions were given
- 24 "That killeth an ox _____ lamb _____ goat"
- 25 prefix meaning good
- 26 The initial of Abram's father, the land where Abram fled, and Abram's wife (Gen. 11 and 12)
- 27 "shall bathe himself _____ water"
- 28 "_____ priest shall sprinkle _____ blood"
- 29 "Without shedding of _____ is no remission" Hebrews 9
- 31 joy
- 33 "Dip it in the blood that is in the _____" Exod. 12:22 (use modern spelling)
- 35 "will cut him off from among his _____"
- 36 meaning "hindrance" in II Thess. 2:7
- 37 hillside (Scot.)
- 38 abyss, c_____
- 41 The eighth commandment: "Thou shalt not _____" Exod. 20
- 44 Author of the book of Acts
- 45 "The way of the wilderness of the Red _____" Exod. 13:18
- 47 "The life of the flesh is _____ the blood"

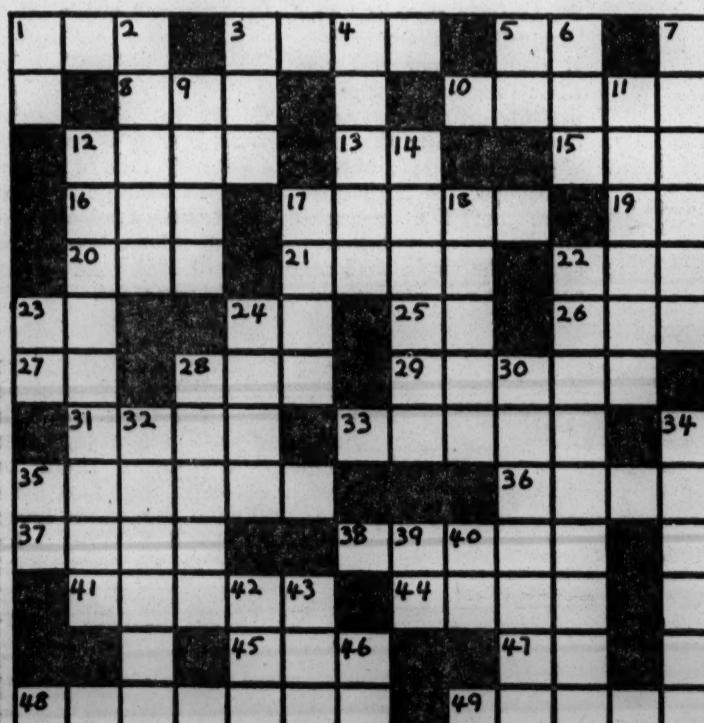
- 48 "_____ it be one of your own country or a stranger"
- 49 "And be unclean _____ the even"

Clues Down

- 1 "_____ the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices"
- 2 A friend of Job
- 3 "Who changed the truth of God into a _____" Rom. 1:25
- 4 "To the end that the children of Israel . . . which they offer in the open _____"
- 5 Old English (abbr.)
- 6 "burn the _____ for a sweet savour"
- 7 "or that which was torn of _____"
- 9 the first garden
- 11 "Is it time for you to dwell in your _____ houses?" Haggai 1:4 (modern spelling)
- 12 "Of the house of Israel, or of the _____ which sojourn among you"
- 14 ancient city of Moab (Josh. 13:16)
- 17 "He shall put the incense upon the _____ before the Lord" Lev. 16:13
- 18 "I have given it . . . to make an atonement for your _____"
- 22 "It is the blood that maketh an _____ for the soul"
- 23 City captured by Joshua (Joshua 8)
- 24 a son of Zerubbabel (I Chron. 3:20)
- 28 American Indian tent
- 30 cloth made waterproof by oil
- 32 "I _____ it; I would not live always" Job 7:16
- 34 "Speak unto Aaron . . . and unto all the children of _____"
- 35 Initials of first two missionaries sent from Antioch (Acts 13)
- 39 first and last letters of the name of the man Elijah anointed a king over Syria (I Kings 19)
- 40 gold (chemical symbol)
- 42 "He planteth an _____" Isa. 44:14
- 43 a sheltered place
- 46 city in Numbers 21:15

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Puzzle Number 4

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

and the

SPIRIT OF ERROR

By Keith L. Brooks

What do Christian Scientists believe? What's wrong with Mormonism? What about spiritualism, Jehovah's Witnesses, modern theology, Theosophy?

All of us run into situations where we wish we knew more about cults. Though we don't agree with them, we know, we sometimes find it hard to be definite and exact about *why* we don't because we don't know exactly what they do teach.

To read the writings of the false cult leaders, to learn just what they teach and where it differs from Scriptural truth—this is a lifetime work most of us don't have time to do. But one man did. Keith L. Brooks, of the American Prophetic League, studied carefully the available literature and made a strong battle against the groups that deny the Bible, deny that Christ is God, and put a man (or a woman) in the place only Christ deserves. He summed up his study in a chart called, "The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error." Taking the crucial points of Christianity—God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, Retribution, Salvation, Redemption and Sin—he states in chart form first what the Word of God teaches about these doctrines. Then in successive columns, he compares the teaching of the cults on each of the seven points. Christian Science, spiritualism, Jehovah's Witness, Theosophy, Mormonism, Unity, and modern theology are compared with the Word of God, and their errors shown.

We feel that every Christian will want a copy of this large chart, 24" x 9 1/2", printed on both sides. It is interesting just to read, and it makes it possible for you to answer questions about the teachings of various cults easily and with authority. The information is from the official writings of the cult, in each case. Included also is a list of other literature on cults, giving access to much more information.

"The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error," 12 large pages in chart form, a valuable aid to personal work and to understanding, will be given FREE to each one who completes Puzzle Number 4 of the Great Chapters of the Bible Series and sends it in, before the deadline, correctly answered.

Sharpen up your pencil and your brain, and get busy on that puzzle!

1. Fill in the empty blanks according to the clues given. Answers must be complete and correct.

2. PRINT (not write) your name and address in the blank below the puzzle. (Please include country in foreign addresses.) This coupon will serve as your address label for the envelope containing your prize. Mail to: PUZZLE EDITOR, THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of the paper, you may

THE RULES

D	U	S	T	T	H	O	A	R	R	T	
I	N	T	O	A	R	S	O				
A	B	E	L	T	O	D	U	S			
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Answer to Puzzle No. 1

the boomerang fell on his foes and they were tossed to the lions!

Jezebel despised godly Elijah. She purposed to murder him. But God had other plans. Elijah took a trip to glory in a chariot of fire and Queen Jezebel became dog food!—the victim of her own boomerang.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7).

Jesus said, "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant [slave] of sin!" How often we see, it, again and again—the man or woman who plays with sin and stays with sin soon becomes a slave of sin!

"Be SURE your sin will find you out!" No guesswork about it.

"As I have done, so God hath requited me."

Sin always becomes a boomerang!

Sin always comes home to the sinner.

Words Spoken

THE WORDS WE SPEAK often become a boomerang.

"How forcible are right words!" (Job 6:25)

"A word spoken in good season, how good is it!" (Prov. 15:23b).

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Prov. 25:11).

And these good words spoken will always redound to the good of the speaker.

But oh, the crime of evil words!—slenderous words, lying words, cursing words, unclean words, wicked words—these words will return like a boomerang to the harm of the person who utters them. "So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves"! (Ps. 64:8a).

As the Talmud reads, "He who talks too much commits a sin."

Thomas Fuller said, "Birds are entangled by their feet and men by their tongues."

The Bible says, "But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison" (James 3:8). And again, "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile" (Ps. 34:13).

Some traders-in-trash seem to enjoy speaking evil of others, but God warns, "He that uttereth a slander is a fool" (Prov. 10:18).

(Continued on page 11)

The Boomerang!

(Continued from page 10)

And fondlers-of-filth need to heed the warning: "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth" (Eph. 4:29a).

And lovers-of-lies need to remember that Satan is the father of all such (John 8:44), and that "a lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin" (Prov. 26:28).

A young woman recently obtained national fame by her lying. She won a beauty contest by pretending to be single when she was really married. Though she lost the contest-title when they discovered her lie, she nevertheless cashed in on her falsehood by offers from nightclubs, theatres, TV shows and a movie studio. Her husband said of this nationally famous lie: "She feels great about it, and I'm as proud of her as I can be."

But the end is not yet! Since lying is always a boomerang, there will come a day when grief and regret must follow in its wake! Follow a lie to the end before you conclude that the liar has escaped the boomerang. The Bible warns: "All liars shall have their part in the lake of fire" (Rev. 21:8).

God must judge evil words. If you have been a peddler-in-profanity, read again Exodus 20:7, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain!"

Many today "make their own tongue to fall upon themselves!"

Ill-Gotten Money

ILL-GOTTEN (and ill-used) MONEY is a boomerang! Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, is a classic example of this. He could not stand to see wealthy Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, return home after his leprosy cure without relieving him of some of his riches. The prophet Elisha had refused to accept payment from Naaman. So Gehazi took matters into his own hands. The captain came prepared to pay for his cure. He got what he came after. Why should he not pay? If Elisha doesn't need the money, I can surely use it! Perhaps he thus reasoned. So off he went in pursuit of the caravan of Naaman.

Naaman was most happy to oblige and never suspected that Gehazi's appeal for funds was a frame-up. What a shrewd operator Gehazi would be called in the business world today! He returned with his dishonest gain, quite certain (as sinners foolishly think) that "no one will ever know." But, he hadn't reckoned on the boomerang! In this case God had notified the prophet before the thief even returned with his ill-gotten loot. Judgment fell, and Gehazi "went out from his presence a leper as white as snow"! (II Kings 5:27b)

Recently we read the terrible news account of a little girl assaulted, brutalized and slain by a sex criminal. The father had a good job, but the mother thought she had to work away from home too, leaving the children to shift for themselves. God gives us our children to rear for Him, but too many people feel they must have luxuries and "things," even though it means sacrificing their own children for them. The ill-gotten money thus becomes a boomerang.

"But, they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition" (I Tim. 6:9).

A young man killed his own mother to get her insurance money for his drinking and carousing. It is reported that she had always pampered him, giving him everything he wanted, and tolerating a "spoiled brat." When he was grown he became her boomerang!

Men spend their health to get wealth—then many times have to spend all their wealth to try to recover the health! The backlash of the boomerang!

Lust. Always a Boomerang

LUST, too, is a boomerang. How faithfully God warns us about this sin: "For the lips of a strange woman drop as an hon-

eycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil. But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell" (Prov. 5:3-5). Again God graphically describes the boomerang: "Lust not after her beauty [the strange woman] in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread; and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? . . . But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul" (Prov. 6:25-28; 32).

Sometime ago the Associated Press told the sordid story of a banker whose charred body was found with that of his paramour in a gutted hotel room where they had been engaged in a drunken orgy. His home was clear across the United States. No one could possibly know, he probably had thought. But three thousand miles made no difference. The boomerang came back upon him in fearful and fiery judgment—and everybody in America knew about it! Be sure your sin will find you out! Many brokenhearted young people who have fooled with the flesh found this out too late.

Lewd magazines, dirty books, evil shows have led people into unmentionable sin and disgrace.

Some parents specifically shun preachers and churches that would warn their children about the evils of the modern dance—only later to face the shame of an illegitimate grandchild. The boomerang!

apple trees. "Look not thou upon the wine . . . at the last it biteth like a serpent" (Prov. 23:31, 32), God warns.

Only recently I spent hours of several days trying to help a whiskey-soaked sinner to repent and trust Christ. Once he had made good money; once he had a happy home; once he even had taken a Bible course, thinking of preparing for the ministry. But drink got him. Now he is a red-nosed, bleary-eyed, sloppily-attired sot! The ruined career, the broken-hearted wife, the disgusted children, the disgraced name, the poverty-stricken home testify to the surety of the boomerang!

Just last Saturday night another man called me to his home at midnight. He had seen and heard our gospel telecast two nights earlier. He was much convicted, deeply chagrined, tearfully broken in spirit. He said, "Preacher, something has just got to be done for me. I can't go on like this!" He has had his whiskey delivered to the door while his children cringe and quail before his sprees, and his wife works to support him. Yet he was once a most able man in his trade. Now since social drinking "boomeranged," he is defeated, crushed, sick and often violent.

A bartender here is in the hospital hanging on the borderline of eternity after a fearful and horrible auto crash. One cannot help but wonder how many such awful wrecks that same man caused by the drinks he had served!

A merchant in a city where I lived as a boy put beer in his restaurant. This was right after the repeal of prohibition and I remember in those days sinners were laughingly singing, "Happy days are 'beer' again!" The man prospered. The cafe had to be enlarged. A dance hall was added, for dancing and drinking seem always to go together. Then one day it happened. The boomerang!

Can You Qualify?

Charles Fox writes of "God's five-ranked army of decreasing human weakness." Concerning this army, many of us can qualify if we are:

FOOLISH enough to depend on Him for wisdom;
WEAK enough to be empowered with His strength;
BASE enough to have no honor but God's honor;
DESPISED enough to be kept in the dust at His feet;
NOTHING enough for God to be everything."

—Sunday School Times

How often will investigation prove that the girl or woman criminally assaulted and murdered was one who had flaunted her nudity, parading around in shorts or in skimpy, sexy, low-cut dresses, until she had successfully aroused the passion of some evil-minded libertine! "As I have done, so God hath requited me!"

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption" (Gal. 6:8a).

"Southwestern Medicine," the official journal of the Southwestern Medical Association, recently "called upon doctors to quit smoking and to seek abolition of the use of tobacco because of its reported relation to cancer." The article continued, "it is time that the medical profession . . . begins to exert pressure to bring about a decrease and even an abolition of the use of tobacco." It says that nicotine "increases blood pressure; it increases pulse rate; it contracts peripheral blood vessels; it reduces vital capacity; it reduces gastric mobility . . . it cannot but aggravate coronary heart disease . . . but we as physicians continue to smoke"! And, of course, physicians as well as other slaves to the flesh will continue to suffer the blow of the boomerang until such warnings are heard and obeyed.

It is strange how the boomerang works sometimes. A high school girl once argued with her pastor about smoking cigarettes. Later as she walked home from school she was run over by a school teacher who was trying to drive and light a cigarette at the same time!

Social Drinking

SOCIAL DRINKING will always prove to be a boomerang! Winesups do not all hang from

returned. His own wife and daughter were killed in front of the place—run over and killed by a man who was drunk on beer! "As I have done, so God hath requited me!"

Infidelity Too

INFIDELITY will eventually return as a boomerang. Truly, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God" (Ps. 14:1a). A college student about to be executed for murder said that he blamed the ungodly college professor who had wrecked his faith for the life of crime into which he was led.

The thousands of young ministers who are now filling liberal pulpits and spewing forth streams of theological poison will one day encounter the boomerang.

A preacher friend told me recently of a successful but worldly clergyman who has continued to climb in the ranks of his denomination. He once knew the gospel of Christ, my friend said. But he began to trim his message to please man. A great sorrow has since come to his home. And now, though the man is pastor of a fashionable and wealthy church, he has suffered a nervous breakdown and hardly ever can enter his own pulpit. Is it not the boomerang?

And what can be said for those preachers and religious leaders now embracing the so-called "new evangelicism"? Sooner or later compromise brings calamity. Like Samson, their spiritual locks are being shorn, and one day they will awaken to the fact that the Lord has departed from them! (See Judges 16:20.)

Questionable Friends

QUESTIONABLE FRIENDS often prove to be a boomerang.

"Ammon had a friend" we read in II Samuel 13:3. But this so-called friend made a sinful and satanic suggestion which utterly ruined Ammon, leading him into an awful crime of immorality. Two years went by. Surely Ammon thought he had gotten away with his sin. But one day the boomerang came hurtling back—the sword of death in the hands of henchmen employed by his own half-brother! Shun evil companions. "The companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Prov. 13:20).

Selfishness

SELFISHNESS always becomes a boomerang. Selfish sinners are aptly described in Job 21 (and what a picture of multitudes of sleek, selfish, scornful souls around us today!) "Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? . . . Their houses are safe from fear . . . They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? (Job 21:7; 9; 11-15). The boomerang comes later, in verse 17: "How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger."

A woman who had lived a selfish, stingy life now finds in her declining years that people shun her, and even her own children and grandchildren come around only as often as they just have to. Her life of selfishness has settled upon her in a boomerang of loneliness and despair.

A father and mother not far from a city where I lived sent their little boy to Sunday School regularly. A pastor told me the parents lazily remained at home ignoring the Lord's day, pursuing their own pleasure and neglecting their souls. One Sunday when they thought their child was at church his body was discovered floating lifelessly in a park lake. The youngster had learned his parental lesson well and had been skipping church to go swimming. His parents should have known that someday, in one way or another, their example of selfishness would come home to them.

Unbelief

UNBELIEF (rejection of Christ) will ultimately prove to be a boomerang. "He that believeth [trusteth] not is condemned already" (John 3:18).

"If you believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24b).

"The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23a).

". . . he that believeth not shall be damned"! (Mark 16:16b).

As to believe on Christ is to trust Him as one's own personal Saviour, so to trust in one's own good works is to reject Christ, in unbelief, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

To trust in one's own goodness is to reject Him, for ". . . there is none good but one, that is, God" (Matt. 19:17).

To trust in a lodge, or a church, or a religion to save, is to reject Him and perish in unbelief, for "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

One can be religious but lost! A nurse in a western state told about having nursed a minister who had been a very popular but worldly preacher and whose actions and habits were questionable though he knew the language of fundamental Christianity. He had never seemed to take life seriously. She said he died in bitter anguish of soul crying that he had saved others but was not saved himself!

Right now I could name three men with whom I used to plead for Christ when I was a pastor in a Florida city. Two of them

committed suicide by putting a pistol to the head and pulling the trigger. The third, a neighbor who lived just up the street from me, and to whom I had witnessed many times, recently died by taking rat poison! Oh, the folly of rejecting the Saviour even for a moment! To remain in unbelief is to remain under the wrath of God. What a difference it would have made had those three men received Jesus Christ. But instead they perished in their unbelief. I could never make them see that one day their false philosophy and Christ-rejection would descend upon them like a boomerang!

Be assured that GODLINESS, too, becomes a boomerang.

"If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures" (Job 36:11).

". . . no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Ps. 84:1b).

I thought of that when I recently stayed in a beautiful air-conditioned home while conducting a revival. The handsome and brilliant young husband had only a few short years before turned from a life of recklessness and sin to new life in Christ. The whole country took note of the change. And what did he lose by such a decision? Well, already he owns his own business and is prospering most miraculously. I stayed in his beautifully furnished home among picturesque pine trees. He has two fine automobiles. He is married to an exquisitely beautiful woman. And recently God gave them a charming little daughter. They are devoted Christians, and they humbly thank God for all that He has given them. "As I have done, so God hath requited me."

You see, the boomerang works both ways!

Can You Beat the Game?

Lost sinner, can you outsmart God's law? Can you sin and get by? No, the Word of God teaches from beginning to end that sin must be punished, that one's sin finds him out, that sin, unrepented, unforgiven, sin not covered by the blood of Christ brings punishment and eternal judgment.

But today you may turn to Christ and be saved. Christ paid your debt. He died on the cross to redeem sinners. And now according to the Scriptures, those who believe in Him are forgiven, their sins are covered. "With his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:6).

If you will today honestly confess your sinfulness and repent of your sins, trusting the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive and save you, then today you will become a child of God, a born-again Christian. Will you do it?

If you will here and now, honestly, in the sight of God turn your heart from sin, and ask the Lord Jesus to forgive you and save you, and trust Him to do it now, I hope you will sign the following decision form, copy it in a letter to this editor, and mail it at once! I beg you repent, decide for Christ today, sign and copy and mail your decision at once.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor, THE SWORD OF THE LORD Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Brother Hugh Pyle's sermon, "The Boomerang." I confess that I am a poor lost sinner who needs to be saved. I believe that sin must be punished. But I believe that Jesus died for my sins and is willing to save me, as the Bible says. So here and now I honestly repent of my sins. I trust Jesus Christ to forgive me and save me. This moment I give Him my heart and set out to live for Him. I depend on Him to change my heart, to help me live right, to take me to Heaven. I will claim Him openly and set out to live for Him as a Christian.

Please tell Brother Pyle of my decision and send me a letter of encouragement and instruction in living the Christian life.

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